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FATAL ATHENS FACEOFF — A bus owner shouting at police as barricades burned Monday at a bus depot. He and other owners were protesting the government's plan to renationalize Athens's public bus system. One owner was killed and six were wounded when the police stormed the depot to seize the buses from their former owners.

How Christopher Jettisoned Power to Ride Out Storm

By Daniel Williams New York Times Service

WASHINGTON — If Defense Secretary Les Aspin, who resigned last week, offers a study in how to lose a cabinet job, Secretary of State Warren M. Christopher provides a lesson in how to keep one.

In trouble similar to Mr. Aspin's weeks ago, after major policy stumbles and lackluster public appearances, Mr. Christopher took the initiative to improve his standing in ways Mr. Aspin did not, according to officials.

As a result, Mr. Christopher appears to have weathered the storm, though an old rule of politics, from baseball, says you're only safe until you're out.

"I haven't considered resigning," Mr. Christopher told

Washington Post editors and reporters. "I'm doing my job, and I'm going to keep doing my job."

But the Warren Christopher who has re-emerged is a hybrid — at once enlarged by trying to project an image of toughness,

For W. Anthony Lake, President Clinton's national security adviser, integrity comes first. Page 3.

and yet reduced by a willingness to cede important chores to others.

His aggressive campaign of self-preservation began at a White House talk in October with President Bill Clinton and Vice President Al Gore. By then, the deaths of U.S. soldiers in Somalia, a bungling attempt to land U.S. peacekeeping troops

in Haiti and a wavering performance on Bosnia-Herzegovina had combined to raise serious questions about Mr. Christopher's ability to conceive and manage policy.

State Department betting at the time was that he would be gone by February. Representative Frank X. McCloskey, Democrat of Indiana, called for his resignation, as did Britain's Economist magazine. Most disturbing for the secretary was that no one came to his defense.

But Mr. Christopher had some advantages Mr. Aspin did not. For one, he was closer to Mr. Clinton, having helped choose a number of the high officials as director of the president's transition team.

White House officials said that Mr. Christopher also had

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A Business Debacle Casts Doubt on Inman's Skills

By Stephen Labaton New York Times Service

AUSTIN, Texas — At his Rose Garden introduction last week as the nation's next defense secretary, Bobby Ray Inman promised to apply the experience he gained in corporate America to the Pentagon in the hopes of bringing what he called the "best business practices" to the government and getting "a dollar value for a dollar spent on defense."

But during the 1980s, Mr. Inman presided over a costly business debacle, a leveraged-buyout failure that resulted in the bankruptcy of a Fortune 500 military contractor named

Tracor Inc., which made submarine and aviation weapons systems.

Another problem concerning Mr. Inman surfaced Monday when the White House said he would pay \$6,000 in back Social Security taxes owed for a housekeeper. (Page 3)

Once the largest commercial employer in Austin, Tracor is now a much smaller part of itself. Although it has emerged from bankruptcy and is now considered financially healthy, the company became a casualty not only of the excesses of Wall Street but also of mismanagement, cost overruns and shrinking Pentagon spending. To bankruptcy experts and

technology executives, the fall of Tracor is a case study in how not to run a business.

"Tracor was like a lot of other deals in the mid to late 1980s," said Robert Miller, a bankruptcy lawyer who represented many of the company's creditors during its reorganization. "The management substantially overpaid for the company and tried to expand it, and ultimately it hit the skids."

Frank McBee, Tracor's founder, said in an interview that Mr. Inman was making a smart decision returning to Washington, where he "at least knows his way around." He pointedly

See DEFENSE, Page 3.

Many Expected More From Hosokawa

By David E. Sanger New York Times Service

TOKYO — When he swept into office five months ago as the unlikely leader of a political revolution, Morihiro Hosokawa was hailed as the prime minister who could finally change Japan. He revealed in American-style politics — from teleprompters to polo shirts to brisk tennis games — and promised to end Japan's political corruption and economic collision.

But after a blazing start, Mr. Hosokawa seems to be losing his magic touch. The programs on which he staked his leadership, reforming the political system and deregulating a languishing economy, have bogged down. Tokyo's back-room deal-making, which he

denounced for years as governor of a southern prefecture, is beginning to engulf him. Time and again in recent weeks he has struggled to keep ideological rifts between the Socialists and the seven other parties in his fragile coalition cabinet from splitting the government. So far it has held together, but at great political cost to Mr. Hosokawa.

The bureaucrats who ran the country for four decades with the now-deposed Liberal Democratic Party sneer about the new government's disorganization, whispering over lunch in Kojima, the government center, that Mr. Hosokawa is proving himself a small-town politician.

He is uninterested in foreign relations, they say, at sea when it comes to handling the economy, unwilling to delve into policy details. Editorials have begun to complain that his government is long on symbolism but short on action, too captivated by the example of another former Southern governor across the Pacific.

Much of the criticism is motivated by bitterness: Many in Japan have a strong vested interest in seeing Mr. Hosokawa fall. Most of the problems he faces, especially an economic slowdown that is far worse than expected, were inherited from the previous government.

It is far from clear that if the Liberal Democrats had stayed in power the economy would

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Arafat Hopes for Breakthrough in Paris

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

TUNIS — The Palestine Liberation Organization chairman, Yasser Arafat, said Monday that talks on Palestinian autonomy were "going through difficult times" but that he hoped for a breakthrough with their resumption Tuesday in Paris.

He blamed Israel's "delaying tactics" for the deadlock. Negotiators from Israel and the PLO met in Norway over the weekend to try to iron out differences over the Sept. 13 accord on limited autonomy for the Palestinians.

But there were no outward signs of progress Sunday as the delegates returned home to consult with their leaders.

Mr. Arafat told the PLO news agency after a meeting with President Zine Abidine Ben Ali of Tunisia that Israel was "not complying with the declaration of principles" set out in the autonomy accord.

Israel and the PLO disagree on who will be in charge of the international border crossings into the autonomous regions — Gaza and the Jericho district in the West Bank.

They also have differing ideas over how large the Jericho area should be and on security arrangements for Jewish settlements in the autonomous zones.

"We hope that we can solve the problems in another meeting to be held tomorrow in Paris," Mr. Arafat said. "We only want to maintain Palestinian rights and dignity."

In a Dec. 12 summit meeting, Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin and Mr. Arafat failed to bridge their differences and agreed to meet again 10 days later. However, no such meeting has been announced.

Mr. Arafat said the two sides still disagreed on the definition of the Jericho area and the meaning of checkpoints between Jericho and Jordan and the Gaza Strip and Egypt.

The PLO Executive Committee, which met Monday to hear a report from its delegates on the Oslo talks, also issued a statement saying control of checkpoints was the key for implementation of the self-rule agreement.

"The Executive Committee gave directions to its delegation to reject all partial or nominal solutions," it said.

The peace accord signed by Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organization in September, Israeli troops were to begin withdrawing from Jericho and the Gaza Strip on Dec. 13, but the deadline was missed.

"The PLO Executive Committee disapproves of Israeli statements and positions which try to ignore the core of the disagreement and maneuver to lose time and not commit Israel to faithful and precise implementation within the

See MIDEAST, Page 2

For OECD, Recovery Is Still Around The Corner

By Carl Gewirtz International Herald Tribune

PARIS — The global economic recovery, seen for years by the OECD to lie just around the corner, just remains there.

A solid expansion is under way in North America, the semi-annual outlook published Monday by the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development says, and Britain, Australia and New Zealand are experiencing "moderate if unspectacular recoveries."

But the report sees no convincing evidence that recession in Japan has ended. And the modest recovery forecast in Continental Europe is not expected to gather enough momentum to become noticeable until the second half of next year.

Robust growth of 6 to 7 percent over the next two years is forecast in what the OECD calls the dynamic Asian economies — Korea, Taiwan, Hong Kong, Singapore, Thailand and Malaysia. The region is expected to benefit from the appreciation of the yen by pulling in more direct investment from Japan.

A major uncertainty is the outlook for China, whose annual growth of 13 percent over the last two years has provided significant export growth for its neighbors.

Thanks to the North American advance and bolstering by exports to the rapidly growing developing countries in Asia and Latin America, economic growth in the major industrialized nations next year is expected to double the anemic pace of this year, rising to a mediocre 2.1 percent.

This is expected to bolster world trade, which is seen expanding 5.4 percent next year and 6.4 percent in 1995, following this year's low 2.2 percent.

By 1995, the OECD sees growth rates in industrialized countries converging at around 2 1/2 percent. That is a slower advance than previous upswings, but a level consistent with keeping inflation in check.

While "the war on inflation would appear to be proceeding well," the report states, "a judgment that it has been won cannot be made until inflation performance during the recovery phase proves to be satisfactory."

The dark side of the forecast is that even this recovery is insufficient to halt the rise in European unemployment.

White jobless rates are forecast to decline in North America. In Europe the total is projected to rise steadily over the next two years to more than 12 million; that is 11.5 percent of the work force compared to the current level of 10.75 percent.

Even this projection depends on a continuing decline in German inflation that allows shorter-term German interest rates to fall steadily to 5 percent next year and 3.8 percent in 1995. They are currently just over 6 percent.

If Germany's inflation remains unsatisfactorily brisk and rates decline more slowly, the other Europeans whose currencies remain linked to the Deutsche mark will have little choice but to make use of the wider currency fluctuation bands — which they have avoided

See OECD, Page 13

ANC Presses For Elusive Accord With Right Wing

Whites Offer a Deal: Peaceful Transition in Return for a Homeland

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

CAPE TOWN — An eleventh-hour attempt to involve South Africa's rightists in a transition to democracy stalled Monday with the conservative Freedom Alliance accusing the African National Congress of unreasonable demands.

But the government negotiator Dawie de Villiers said after 10 hours of three-way talks that the Freedom Alliance had failed to accept what he called a reasonable demand for an undertaking to contest South Africa's first all-race election in April.

The talks, the first to put the three parties around one table, were called in a last-ditch attempt to achieve a settlement before the white-dominated Parliament votes on a transitional constitution on Wednesday.

Legislators on Monday ended a three-day debate on the draft constitution, which provides for a five-year transition to majority rule.

"Time is now really running out," Mr. de Villiers said. "We're on very, very thin ice. It will take a tremendous effort, a miracle to pull it through."

The chairman of the Freedom Alliance, Rowan Croxje, said at a news conference that the three sides would meet again at 8 A.M. Tuesday, when the rightists would present a final response from their separate leaders.

"It is an ominous situation that we have reached, a most regrettable situation," he said. He said his alliance of five black and white conservative groups agreed to fight the country's first all-race election in April if their demands for regional autonomy were met.

But he said the ANC added a new demand for a written undertaking from each alliance leader.

"We knew it would not be easy, but I am bitterly, bitterly disappointed," Mr. Croxje said.

The ANC negotiator Cyril Ramaphosa said during a break in the talks earlier on Monday that the right was inflexible on assuring that if its demands were met it would end its boycott of the election and the preparations for it.

"We see a total intransigence on their part and a refusal to be part of process as such," he said. "It doesn't look good, but the train must move on. We have said repeatedly that we are not going to stop this process because there happen to be those who want to spoil it for the whole country."

In the past, ANC negotiators have said privately that they are willing to concede the principle of a new South African province consisting of areas where Afrikaners are now the majority ethnic group, provided they could win a majority of votes in open, nonracial elections.

But even the most compromise-minded black leaders are said to adamantly reject the Afrikaners' demand that this province be a sovereign state exempt from the laws of the central government.

With the vote on ratifying the draft constitution now imminent, pressure has been mounting on the ANC to bring all political parties into the electoral process.

On Wednesday, Parliament is expected to pass into law the 200-page document, which was negotiated during two years of talks involving the ANC and about 20 other black and white groups. And once the constitution is enacted, it will become virtually impossible for the Freedom Alliance to secure meaningful changes.

Despite the promised guarantees of minority rights under a new, democratic constitution, members of the Freedom Alliance fear they will be swallowed up, even wiped out in a new South Africa dominated by the ANC, the nation's largest black group and the expected winner of the national election.

As a result, last-minute negotiations have been taking place in Cape Town since Friday between the government, the ANC and the Freedom Alliance, whose members range from the Afrikaner People's Front and the neo-Nazi Afrikaner Resistance Movement to the Zulu-based Inkatha Freedom Party and the nominally independent black homelands of Bophuthatswana and Ciskei.

The Freedom Alliance was formed in July after negotiators led by the ANC and the government set a timetable for ending more than three centuries of white rule.

Meanwhile, sources close to the talks say progress between the ANC and the Afrikaner People's Front announced Monday, while significant, still falls far short of assuring that the negotiations will be successfully concluded. For one thing, the Inkatha Freedom Party and a group of white extremists are said to be resisting contentious elections even if its demands for self-determination are met by the ANC.

(Reuters, NYT)

Kiosk

Milan Probe Cites Northern League

MILAN (AP) — Umberto Bossi, whose Northern League is Italy's fastest-growing party in the wealthy north, has himself come under investigation in the country's vast political scandal, news reports said.

RAI state TV and the Italian news agency ANSA said that Mr. Bossi confirmed that he has been put under investigation for suspected violation of party financing laws. Mr. Bossi met for more than two hours with Prosecutor Antonio Di Pietro, the Milan magistrate who began a series of corruption investigations of Italy's business and political establishment almost two years ago.

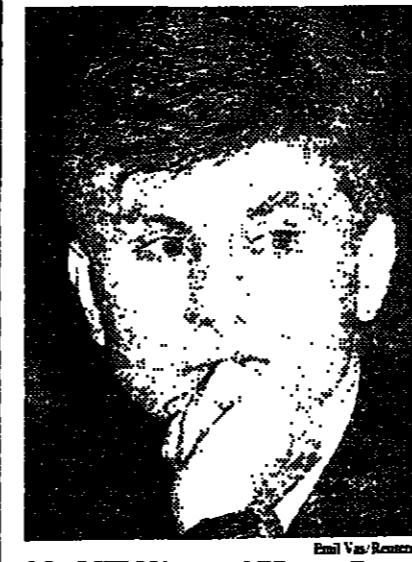
The involvement of the Northern League in the inquiry comes a few days before Italy's president is expected to dissolve Parliament and set elections for the spring to replace the largely discredited legislature.

Business/Finance

Volvo nominated the chief of a unit of ABB Asea Brown Boveri as its chairman. Page 9. American audio gear is gaining listeners after years of decline. Page 9.

Book Review

Chess Page 5.



COALITION BARRED — Zoran Djindjic, leader of Serbia's Democratic Party, Monday in Belgrade. He ruled out a coalition with the Socialists. Page 2.

CBS Out of Football

NEW YORK (AP) — CBS lost its bid Monday to televise the AFC portion of the National Football League, leaving it without professional football for the first time in nearly four decades. NBC won the rights. The terms were not announced.

Two Houses, but No Home, for Russia's Parliament

By Fred Hiatt Washington Post Service

MOSCOW — Say you're president of a major country. Biggest country in the world, in fact. Say you have a chance, with one move, to offend the press, inflame your newly elected parliament, inconvenience your major creditors — oh, and insult the disabled as well.

Go for it, right? Well, that was President Boris N. Yeltsin's decision, too.

At issue is the sensitive question of where Russia's new, and unexpectedly oppositionist, Federal Assembly is going to meet. The question is sensitive in part because Mr. Yeltsin's tanks show up the last parliament.

which should be sent packing to the provinces, according to a senior official.

So where the assembly convenes will tell Russians much about the new balance of power. Mr. Yeltsin's effort through decree to exclude them from any prestigious buildings could provoke the first confrontation between the executive and legislative branches under the constitution approved in the election.

Mr. Yeltsin has claimed the old building for his executive branch, ordered construction of a new one — most painfully — triggered a chain reaction with his allocation of temporary space to the legislators.

"Government doesn't shrink in Moscow," sighed a foreigner.

The latest property war began shortly after the end of Mr. Yeltsin's shootout with the previous legislature Oct. 4. The building, a marble monstrosity of socialist realism on the banks of the Moscow River, was left a sooty, waterlogged, burned-out mess.

Not to worry. Mr. Yeltsin, acting in part out of what a Russian journalist called "superstitious" determination never to let another assembly sit there, ordered his cabinet to move in.

Officials began around-the-clock reclamation work and, to show they were serious, hired workers from Turkey. "The bosses are already carting in their gilded furnishings," said Viktor Fekushin, a journalist who is going to lose his offices. "Once they're ensconced, it'll take tanks to kick them out, too."

Under Mr. Yeltsin's plan, the president's expanding personal bureaucracy would move into the cabinet's offices in Staraya Ploshad, Old Square, the former Central Committee headquarters.

But that still left the thorny problem of parliament. After considering various universities and institutes around town, and even out of town, Mr. Yeltsin finally settled on a double-

See YELSTIN, Page 2

Table with exchange rates for various currencies: Andorra, Antilles, Cameroon, Egypt, France, Gabon, Greece, Ivory Coast, Jordan, Lebanon, Luxembourg, Morocco, Niger, Reunion, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Spain, Tunisia, Turkey, U.A.E., U.S. AIR, etc.

Financial data table including Dow Jones (Up 3.64, 3,755.21), Trib Index (Down 0.35%, 109.76), and The Dollar (Mon. close, previous close) for New York, DM, Pound, Yen, FF.

Ukraine Disarms 17 SS-24 Missiles

Kiev Says Russia And U.S. Agreed On Compensation

KIEV — Ukraine announced Monday that it had taken 17 advanced SS-24 nuclear missiles off military alert.

Deputy Prime Minister Valeri Shmarov made the announcement two days after talks with Russia and the United States that he said produced preliminary agreement on compensation to Ukraine for giving up its nuclear arms.

"Seventeen missiles have been deactivated," Mr. Shmarov said. "There will be 20 by the end of the year. This means lowering the level of military alert. The warheads have been moved away from the launchers."

"Is this not a serious declaration of intention about Ukraine's non-nuclear policy?" he asked. "We are prepared to remove all SS-24s from military alert, but only if conditions discussed at these talks are fulfilled."

During months of debate on the START-1 treaty, the 46 SS-24 missiles on Ukrainian soil were viewed by Kiev as the country's best bargaining chip to win concessions from the West.

President Leonid M. Kravchuk and other politicians proposed that the SS-24s, unlike 130 older SS-19s, would not be destroyed but taken off alert.

Mr. Shmarov said that talks in Kiev with Russia and the United States last week had achieved agreement in principle on providing Ukraine with compensation for giving up the 1,600 former Soviet nuclear warheads on its territory. He mentioned no figures, and consultations were to continue.

The parliament in Kiev last month ratified the 1991 Strategic Arms Reduction Talks accord subject to 13 conditions. Two of the main conditions were that Ukraine would receive security guarantees and substantial compensation, put by some Ukrainian experts at up to \$2.8 billion.

Many Ukrainian officials are reluctant to give up all the nuclear weapons, fearing Russia will seek to deprive Ukraine of its independence.

Although details of last week's talks were not released, Ukrainian officials said an agreement on providing compensation for its long-range weapons included a promise to supply 50 tons of uranium for Ukraine's nuclear power stations.



A Wave of Explosives Shuts Beaches on French Atlantic

Fire fighters removing an explosive detonator from the beach near Piriac-sur-Mer on Monday. Vast stretches of French coast were closed to the public as search teams hunted for detonators that washed ashore after 35,000 fell off a Cypriot freighter, Mary-H, during bad weather in September. More than 1,400 have been found. They could maim or kill if set off.

For U.S., Yeltsin Is Not the Only Player

WASHINGTON — The United States is looking beyond Boris N. Yeltsin to other Russians to bring change to the former Soviet Union, a top State Department official said Monday.

Ambassador Strobe Talbott, who focuses on the one-time superpower, dodged questions on whether Washington was reassessing its Russia policy but acknowledged that last week's vote — in which the ultranationalist Vladimir V. Zhirinovskiy made a strong showing — was a clear protest against the pain of reform.

"It's not going to be neat, there are going to be plenty of suspenseful moments ahead — especially given the strength of the two anti-reform blocs, the Communists and the Zhirinovskiy people — but the United States policy is going to be targeted not just on Yeltsin but on reformers elsewhere in the parliament," he said.

Clinton's advisers were preparing recommendations for the president to take to Moscow in January. The Clinton administration, with Mr. Talbott leading, has enthusiastically backed Mr. Yeltsin in his drive to change Russia's political and economic face.

Spy for U.S. Gets a Mild Sentence

Reward for Cooperation: 6 Years in a Russian Camp

MOSCOW — A Russian intelligence officer has been sentenced to six years in a labor camp for spying for the United States, a spokesman for the military branch of Russia's Supreme Court said Monday.

Colonel Vyacheslav Baranov of the Military Intelligence Service was cooperative throughout the investigation, which led the court to hand down a relatively mild term, said Vadim Penzov, the court spokesman. The maximum penalty for espionage is death.

MIDEAST: Arafat Is Hoping for a Breakthrough

Continued from Page 1 schedules agreed on," the PLO statement said. In Jerusalem, a source close to the Israeli government said he expected the talks to resume in Paris on Tuesday.

YELTSIN: 2 Houses, No Home

Continued from Page 1 barreled solution: The Russian House of Press would be appropriated for the upper house, or Federation Council, and for the lower house, or State Duma, the skyscraper that once belonged to Comcom, the Eastern trading bloc.

Rate the world's best restaurants with Patricia Wells.

The IHT's restaurant critic has set out on a rare and ambitious gastronomic journey, a search for the 10 best restaurants in the world. She will be rating, in month-to-month articles, the top restaurants from region to region, and comparing them to one another. Whether it's the best in dim sum, delicious but secret sushi bars or the finest of French tables, she will guide readers with articles about inexpensive restaurants as well as the grand ones in the world's major cities. She will also share her tips on how to select quality restaurants in unfamiliar territory.

Don't miss this series.

COMING JANUARY 17TH FRANCE



Patricia Wells is the author of *The Food Lover's Guide to Paris*, now in its third edition.

Socialists Claiming A Victory In Serbia

By John Kifner
New York Times Service
BELGRADE — President Slobodan Milosevic's ruling Socialist Party claimed victory in Serbia's parliamentary elections on Monday on the basis of early vote counts.

Mr. Milosevic had clearly strengthened his grip on power, the incomplete early reports indicated, by undercutting challengers from the monarchist right who had maintained that the former Communist who unleashed nationalist passions here was insufficiently patriotic and had made a mess of the economy.

The Socialist Party retained the largest single block of seats in parliament. But while it appeared to make some gains, it was not clear whether it could achieve the absolute majority of 126 in the 250-seat parliament needed to rule without a coalition partner.

Mr. Milosevic's victory came despite a devastated economy, in large part because of international sanctions imposed because of Serbia's support for a war for land launched by ethnic Serbs in Croatia and Bosnia after the breakup of the former Yugoslavia. The war itself was not an issue.

WORLD BRIEFS

Bonn Sets March 31 Somalia Pullout

BONN (Reuters) — Germany will withdraw its troops from Somalia by March 31 alongside the American pullout from the United Nations peacekeeping operation, a government official said Monday.

French School Bars Muslim Scarf

GRENOBLE, France (Reuters) — A French public school said Monday that it had sent home a Muslim girl for wearing an Islamic head scarf during physical education classes.

U.K. Serial Killer Is Jailed for Life

LONDON (AP) — A former soldier, Colin Ireland, was sentenced to life in prison Monday after admitting to being the serial killer who stalked London's homosexual community and murdered five men, including an American businessman.

Butros Ghali Backs Japan's UN Bid

TOKYO (AFP) — The United Nations secretary-general, Boutros Boutros Ghali, supported a Japanese bid to win a permanent seat on the UN Security Council when he met Prime Minister Morihiro Hosokawa here on Monday, officials said.

Truckers Drive Home Point to Kohl

BONN (AP) — Hundreds of truck drivers drove past the home of Chancellor Helmut Kohl with horns blaring on Monday to protest the high taxes they say are crippling the German transport industry.

France Deports 26 Illegal Algerians

PARIS (Combined Dispatches) — France on Monday deported 26 illegal Algerian residents who were rounded up in a raid on a crime-ridden northern Paris quarter last week.



Teenagers' Celebration Turns to Tragedy in Argentina

The mother of one of 17 teenagers killed in a disco fire, outside the club near Buenos Aires on Monday. The youths, who were celebrating their high school graduation, were trapped by padlocked fire exits. The blaze was thought to have been started by a firecracker or a cigarette.

Russian Is Slain in Tajikistan

DUSHANBE, Tajikistan — A Russian border guard was shot and killed Monday on the border between Tajikistan and Afghanistan, the border guard press service said.

TRAVEL UPDATE

Avalanche Alert at French Resorts

GRENOBLE, France — An avalanche alert in most of the French Alps, caused by warm weather, prompted many resorts to close slopes Monday.

Dutch Proposals to Expand Schiphol Airport

Dutch proposals to expand Schiphol airport, which include constructing a fifth runway by 2003, will cost about 30 billion guilders in the period to 2015, according to the ministerial study. Four months of consultation will start next month, with the proposals expected to be put before parliament in late 1994 or in early 1995.

UNESCO World Education Report 1993

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STATESIDE / 'A MATTER OF INTEGRITY'

Clinton's Security Aide Offered to Quit Over Somalia

★POLITICAL NOTES★

Clinton Takes Credit as Economy Improves

WASHINGTON — Presidencies rise or fall on the strength or weakness of the economy. So it is not surprising that with almost all economic signs looking good nowadays, President Bill Clinton and his advisers have begun to crow.

"Look at the direction we're going in," the president told a group of supporters early this month. "We have unemployment down, investment up, no inflation and low interest rates. We are moving in the right direction."

But in economic circles outside the administration, even some of the president's strongest supporters — those who believe the Clinton policies promise significant improvement over the rest of the decade — say he does not deserve nearly so much credit as he is claiming for what has happened in the economy so far.

"The strength of the economy now is not so much what they have done as it is a natural corrective process that's going on," said Laurence H. Meyer, a leading economic consultant and forecaster in St. Louis.

Benjamin M. Friedman, a professor of political economy at Harvard University, is another prominent economist who favors the Clinton administration's basic policies but who believes the improvement in the economy in the last half of this year is largely a result of the normal progression of the business cycle.

"I don't think the Clinton people deserve a lot of credit for what's happened in the economy today," Mr. Friedman said. "It is good that they addressed longer-term concerns by trying to deal with the fiscal imbalances. But that is not what generates a surge of economic activity so soon."

Laura D'Andrea Tyson, the head of Mr. Clinton's Council of Economic Advisors, acknowledges that administration policy is only one ingredient in the economic story. But she argues that the improvements of the last few months are a direct result of the budget the president forced through Congress last summer. (NYT)

Bentzen Wants Higher Pension Eligibility Age

WASHINGTON — Treasury Secretary Lloyd Bentzen thinks the Clinton administration should consider accelerating the timetable for raising the age at which old people begin receiving Social Security benefits.

"I think that's one of the things that we should look at as people live longer and longer and are more productive," Mr. Bentzen said. But Mr. Bentzen said the administration currently was not willing to consider two other ideas for reducing spending in the large federal retirement program: limits on cost-of-living adjustments and increased taxes on high-income recipients.

Mr. Bentzen's comments reflect growing congressional pressure to restrain programs such as Social Security and Medicare, which have become the biggest contributors to the record federal deficits of recent years. (LAT)

Surgeon-General's Son Held on Drug Charge

LITTLE ROCK, Arkansas (AP) — The son of Surgeon-General Joycelyn Elders surrendered to police Monday on a charge that he sold cocaine to undercover agents. The son, Kevin Elders, 28, is accused of selling an eighth of an ounce of cocaine to undercover police on July 29 for \$275.

The police issued a warrant for his arrest last week, a week after Mr. Elders' mother said legalizing drugs could reduce the country's crime rate and suggested that the government study the idea.

In a terse statement Friday, Dr. Elders said she supported her son.

Quote / Unquote

After listening to President Clinton complain that he had not saved any money in 1993, George Stephanopoulos, a senior aide, told him: "Mr. President, I don't think you should worry about that. I think your savings account will be your memoirs." (LAT)

By Ruth Marcus
Washington Post Service

WASHINGTON — Of course W. Anthony Lake offered to resign.

President Bill Clinton's national security adviser, a private man with an abhorrence of melodrama, presents it as a casual, almost offhand remark. In the days after the downing of a U.S. helicopter in Mogadishu, Somalia, and the deaths of 18 servicemen, Mr. Lake told the president that, naturally, he was prepared to step down if that would help.

Mr. Lake, 54, describes the offer with a tone of mild surprise that anyone might have acted differently, combined with chagrin that his private conversation with the president had leaked.

"That was not a big deal," he says. "It's what you do."

It is a simple summation of the gentleman's code by which Mr. Lake has lived his life, a statement of what one does in such circumstances. Neither Secretary of State Warren M. Christopher nor the departing Defense Secretary Les Aspin made a similar offer.

"It was a matter of integrity," says Mr. Lake's deputy, Samuel R. Berger. "Tony generally has a strong sense of responsibility for all of this, whether he is, in fact, responsible or not."

But for anyone who knows Mr. Lake, it was surely an agonizing moment for a man with enormous pride and a long stake in U.S. foreign policy.

His friends stress his competitiveness, surprising to those who see only his diffident public persona. The prep school debater, the captain of the Harvard squash team, they say, is still a person who "competes to win."

Yet, unmistakably, Mr. Lake has an intense distaste for self-promotion. Asked during an interview what he views as his biggest achievement in office, he demurs. "Pass," he finally says. "That would be the sin of pride."

When a reporter pointed out that some political figures actually enjoy being interviewed, Mr. Lake commented wryly: "That's what I like so much about this town."

In office, Mr. Lake has been haunted by the ghosts of two predecessors: Henry A. Kissinger and Zbigniew Brzezinski. He was Mr. Kissinger's special assistant in the Nixon White House and he saw lots of Mr. Brzezinski as a trusted aide to Secretary of State Cyrus R. Vance during the Carter years. Both Mr. Kissinger and Mr. Brzezinski now serve largely as negative models and help explain Mr. Lake's near invisibility.

Even before President Richard Nixon took office in 1969, Mr. Kissinger maneuvered to usurp power from Secretary of State William P. Rogers; once in office, Mr. Kissinger transformed the national security adviser into the central foreign policy player and was eager to be seen to be such.

Later, Mr. Lake witnessed Mr. Brzezinski's battles with Mr. Vance during which the secretary of state's authority was steadily eroded.

Mr. Lake entered the foreign service in 1962 and, inspired by President John F. Kennedy, went to Vietnam as a believer in the U.S. "mission." By the time he joined Mr. Kissinger's staff in 1969, he "was sick of a war that defied termination."

He later explained that he became Mr. Kissinger's special assistant in "the hope that a new administration, and especially, Kissinger himself could cut the Vietnam knot."

That turned out to be a bit of self-delusion. More were to follow. Mr. Lake and a fellow staffer, Roger Morris, stumbled on evidence that Mr. Kissinger was wiring together one of his colleagues, but kept silent. "Roger and I decided not to confront Kissinger," Mr. Lake told Walter Isaacson, a biographer of Mr. Kissinger. "We were fighting on enough fronts."

Finally, when Mr. Nixon decided to order the bombing of Cambodia, Mr. Lake, Mr. Morris and another staffer, William Waits — what Mr. Kissinger called the "bleeding hearts club" — resigned in protest. But they decided not to make their disagreement public, not wanting to injure Mr. Kissinger, whom they saw as the last figure of hope inside the administration.

Two weeks later, Mr. Kissinger approved a wiretap on Mr. Lake's home phone.

Some of those lessons were reinforced in the years of President Jimmy Carter. As Mr. Vance and Mr. Brzezinski feuded for dominance, the president's message became muddled and contradictory.

Hodding Carter 3d, who was Mr. Vance's spokesman at the time, says Mr. Lake "saw what amounted to a nonstop campaign by the national security adviser to usurp the position of the secretary of state."

"And I think," he added, "he knows from his experiences of where the national security adviser is located, in total proximity to the president, that the possibility for him engaging in a lot of power-building mischief is very high."

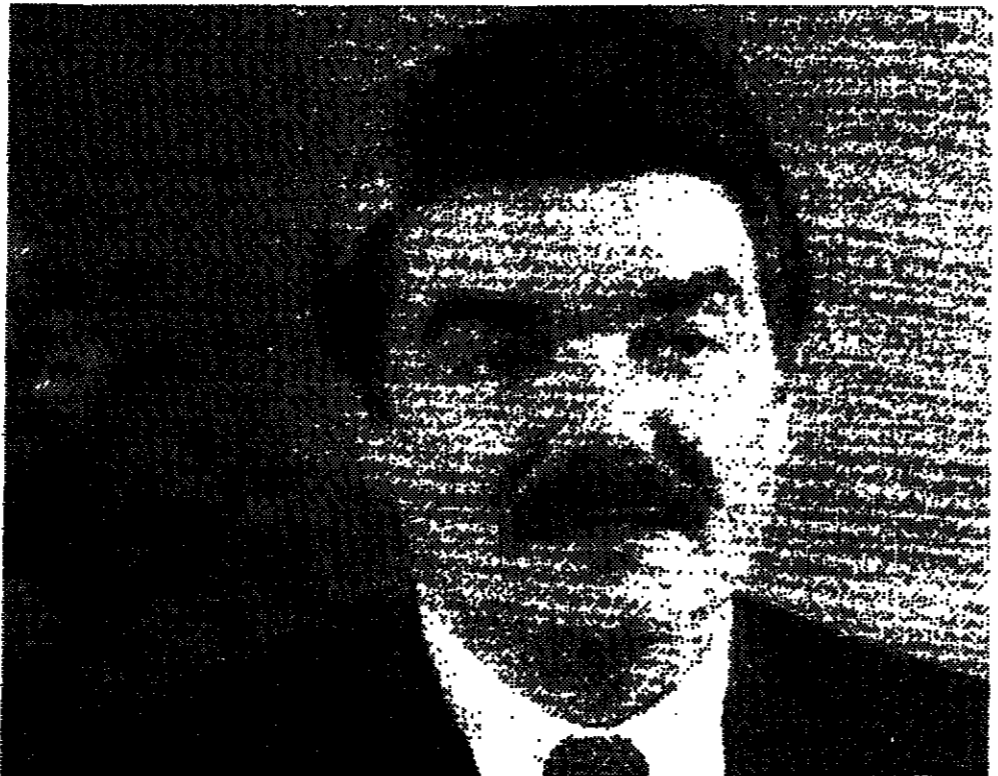
By the time Mr. Carter left office, Mr. Lake had had enough. He bought a cattle farm in Massachusetts and took a teaching job at Mount Holyoke College.

"He's smart and he's competitive and all those things, but I think there's also an ambivalence in his approach to the Washington life, which meant that he also values his privacy and values his family," says Antonia Lake.

When he came back, it seemed as though he could do it on his own terms. A year ago, as Mr. Clinton announced his selection, Mr. Lake joked that he took the job "because the price of beef is down."

As much as Mr. Lake is driven to succeed in the job he now holds, "Tony," says the Clinton aide George Stephanopoulos, "is the only person in the administration who doesn't psychologically need to be here."

White House Denies Troopers' Infidelity Accusation



Roger Perry, a state trooper who says he helped arrange liaisons for Mr. Clinton, appearing on CNN.

WASHINGTON — The White House on Monday denied allegations by two Arkansas state policemen that they arranged extramarital affairs for President Bill Clinton when he was governor of Arkansas.

Dee Dee Myers, the White House spokeswoman, released a statement by a senior presidential adviser, Bruce Lindsey, denying the charges and saying that they were part of an old campaign to discredit the president.

"These allegations are ridiculous," Mr. Lindsey said in the statement. "Similar charges were made, investigated, and responded to during the campaign. There is nothing that dignifies a further response."

The two Arkansas policemen, Roger Perry and Larry Patterson, told Cable News Network that they were part of Mr. Clinton's security detail when he was governor and that they arranged late-night sexual liaisons for him.

The two policemen told the network they had been under pressure to keep silent. They said another Arkansas state trooper had been called by the president himself and offered a promotion if he would keep the White House informed about the troopers' intentions to go public with what they knew.

Mr. Lindsey acknowledged that Mr. Clinton had several "conversations" with people about the "false stories." But he denied that the president had sought silence from anyone. "Any suggestion that the president offered anyone a job in return for silence is a lie."

The charges were also detailed by a conservative magazine, The American Spectator, which said the policemen intended to write a book about Mr. Clinton's life in Little Rock.

Mr. Lindsey said that the charges were "part of an orchestrated campaign to discredit" Mr. Clinton. He said the "real story" was "how the media are being manipulated" by the president's critics.

Allegations and rumors of extramarital relations dogged Mr. Clinton before and during his 1992 campaign, but he overcame them to win the presidency. He and Hillary Rodham Clinton acknowledged rough patches during their marriage.

During 1992, a nightclub singer, Jennifer Flowers, said in a paid interview in the tabloid Star that she had been Mr. Clinton's lover for 12 years. Mr. Clinton denied the allegation. (Reuters, AP)

Away From Politics

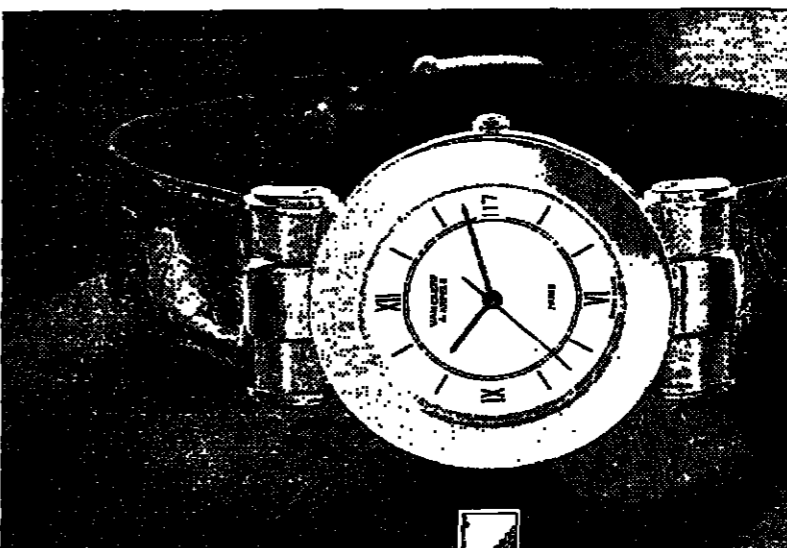
Domino's Pizza Inc. must pay about \$79 million to a woman who was seriously injured when a delivery driver ran a red light and hit her car. The St. Louis Circuit Court jury awarded \$750,000 in actual damages and \$78 million in punitive damages to Jean Kinder, 49. The driver settled out of court for \$150,000. At issue was Domino's guarantee to deliver pizzas in 30 minutes or less. Ms. Kinder's lawyer argued that the guarantee causes too many accidents.

The U.S. military may have bungled investigations into the deaths of 40 soldiers by labeling them suicides when evidence suggested some of the soldiers were killed. The Philadelphia Inquirer reported. The paper said it had researched the cases, from bases around the world, after getting calls from the soldiers' families. It did not say what years its research spanned.

A package containing two powerful pipe bombs was found by a Massachusetts doctor on his return home from vacation. The police detonated the bombs on Dr. Paul Rosenberg's front lawn early Monday after evacuating nearby homes. Dr. Rosenberg, a neurologist at Children's Hospital in Boston, said he had no idea why anyone would want to kill him.

A youth was killed when he used his body to shield two girls from a gunman who opened fire at a party in Lancaster, California. Rayshaun Love, 17, was shot once in the chest by another youth who got angry when beer was spilled on his shoe.

Radioactive pills were given to pregnant women by researchers working on a U.S. government study during the 1940s to determine the long-term effects of radiation on children. A follow-up study in the 1960s concluded that three children born to the women likely died because of the research. (AP, UPI)



New: ROMA

Van Cleef & Arpels

PARIS, GENEVE, BRUXELLES, CANNES, MONTE CARLO, MILANO, ROMA, BEVERLY HILLS, HONOLULU, NEW YORK, PALM BEACH, OSAKA, TOKYO, HONG KONG, SEOUL, SINGAPORE

DEFENSE: A Business Debacle Raises Questions About Inman's Skills

Continued from Page 1

did not want to "offend" anything about Mr. Inman's stewardship.

The company filed for reorganization under Chapter 11 of the U.S. Bankruptcy code nine months after Mr. Inman abruptly left as its chief executive and chairman in December 1989. By all accounts, its debt problems were caused both by mismanagement and the move to take it private that was led by the retired admiral.

As Tracor was sinking, Mr. Inman continued to receive a large compensation package, according to documents later filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission. While two other executives were paid even more money, Mr. Inman received nearly \$1 million in 1989, including \$422,000 in salary, \$250,000 in deferred compensation and a \$300,000 bonus from the previous year. The company never disclosed how much he received in compensation in 1988, his first year at Tracor.

To Mr. Inman's critics, the story of Tracor illustrates his penchant for big spending on high-technology defenses, a penchant that will come under considerable scrutiny as he moves on to head the world's largest procurement organization. The Pentagon's \$262 billion budget this year is larger than the budgets of many small nations.

A member of President Bill Clinton's cabinet who has closely followed Mr. Inman's career expressed some concern about Mr. Inman, observing that he seemed to be an expert at spending money but not particularly adept at raising it or saving it or at cutting costs.

Mr. Inman said in an interview from his home in Austin that the bulk of Tracor's problems had been caused by bankers and lawyers from Wall Street, whose excessive fees had added significantly to the cost of buying the company and had led it down a road of debt that broke the company's back. He acknowledged that there were cost overruns and performance problems while he headed the company that reduced its flow of cash, making it even harder to service the crushing debt load.

"I would say that the lesson I took from Tracor was that you don't do a leveraged transaction at a time of contraction because unless you have the cash flow, you're not going to be in control of your fate," he said. Still, he conceded that the military side of Tracor was resistant to cutting costs, a mindset that has dominated the defense-contracting industry.

Asked how he would apply this experience to the Pentagon, he said, "We're going to have to change the procurement system." But he declined to comment on any future policies before his confirmation hearings.

He also said it would be unfair to

Inman Owed \$6,000 in Taxes For Housekeeper

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Mr. Clinton's nominee for defense secretary, Bobby Ray Inman, failed to pay \$6,000 in Social Security taxes for a part-time housekeeper until he became a candidate for the Pentagon job, the White House said Monday.

Mr. Inman filed the appropriate forms with the Internal Revenue Service on Monday. He "made payment on approximately \$6,000 in taxes owed," according to a White House statement.

The statement said Mr. Inman and his wife had employed a housekeeper since 1986 who worked one or two days a week. The couple did not withhold Social Security and related taxes, the White House statement said.

"At the outset of his discussions with the White House, Admiral Inman fully disclosed this situation and made clear his intent to come into compliance with administration policy on this issue," the statement said.

President Clinton's first choice for attorney general, Zoë Baird, withdrew her nomination after disclosure of her failure to withhold taxes for an illegal alien. The candidacy of Kimba M. Wood, a front runner for the same job, was scuttled over the same issue, although she did not violate any tax laws.

JAPAN: Some Say Hosokawa Is Proving Himself a Small-Town Politician

Continued from Page 1

be better off or Japanese would feel more secure in their jobs.

But even American officials say their early hopes that Mr. Hosokawa would move swiftly to reduce the persistent economic tensions between Japan and America are waning.

"What's going on is no mystery," a senior administration official deeply involved in Japan said. "Economic expectations were high, probably far too high. And we're discovering once again that change in Japan is not like change in Washington."

Mr. Hosokawa's closest allies are urging patience, saying that cleaning up a corrupt political system has been such a wrenching battle that the prime minister has not been able to turn to anything else.

"We need some more time," says Yoshiyuki Takemura, the chief cabinet secretary and head of one of the reform parties allied with Mr. Hosokawa, said in an interview.

"Some of the criticisms are correct. But I think that soon you will see the outlines of our ideas."

There has been little progress on the issues Washington cares about most. While Japan's worldwide trade surplus has narrowed slightly in the last month, the gap with the United States is continuing to widen and the year-end figure may exceed the record of \$77 billion.

After months of restraining their public criticisms for fear of undercutting Hosokawa's reform efforts, administration officials have begun to complain of backsliding in Japan's commitments to buy foreign computer chips, supercomputers and cellular telephones. Once again there are rumblings about trade sanctions.

American and a few Japanese officials complain that Mr. Hosokawa has been so concerned with domestic political issues that he has not yet focused on the main set of trade negotiations under way with the United States, the broad "framework accord" agreed upon in July between Mr. Clinton and Kichii Miyazawa, Mr. Hosokawa's predecessor.

Polks show that Mr. Hosokawa is still enormously popular among Japanese voters, with approval ratings upward of 70 percent until recent mistakes pushed them down to the high 50s and low 60s.

Nonetheless, the extraordinary popularity figures have not been enough to enable Mr. Hosokawa to push through his broad political reform legislation, which would change the nature of electoral districts and impose stricter controls on campaign funds.

The Liberal Democrats have dragged their feet, hoping to embarrass the new government without being blamed for the failure of the bill. The Social Democrats, the biggest party in the coalition, fear the new system would marginalize them.

While the bill has passed the lower house of parliament, the chances of getting it through the upper house are 50-50 at best, even with the 45-day extension of the parliamentary session that Mr. Hosokawa obtained last week.

If the bill fails, he may be forced to call a new election. That is his most potent threat, because the leaders of the Liberal Democratic

Parther Attacks Its Owner

The Associated Press

SAINT-SYLVAIN DANJOU, France — A panther who was to turn into a little girl at a Christmas magic show escaped from its cage, mauling its owner and a technician, who was seriously injured. The police said they were forced to kill the panther.

The Next N.Y. Street Pitch: Can You Spare a Voucher?

New York Times Service

NEW YORK — A community group seeking a solution to panhandling on the Upper West Side announced the city's first program in which residents can give vouchers — redeemable for food or personal items — instead of money to beggars.

Following the lead of Berkeley, California, which started the nation's first voucher program in 1991, the group, West Side Cares, began its effort during the weekend. It is a way to "stop feeding the drug dealers and start feeding people in need," said Laura Friedman, a coordinator of the group, which includes merchants, charitable organizations and residents.

The program, which was met with praise and criticism from advocates for the homeless, targets 19 blocks of Broadway, between 106th Street and 125th Street. So far, 17 stores have agreed to sell the 25-cent vouchers to customers, who can give them to panhandlers. The vouchers can then be redeemed at face value for food and personal items in seven participating stores.

A WEEK IN THE LIFE OF THE TRIB

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Herald Tribune

INTERNATIONAL Herald Tribune

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An Old Arkansas Story

Much as Bill Clinton might wish, the curious saga of his and his wife's dealings with the owner of a failed Arkansas savings and loan association just won't go away. It keeps popping up in congressional inquiries and newspaper accounts, each time with a new and unvarying detail...

estate investments, Madison made large unsecured loans to executives and other insiders. Madison's practices attracted the attention of federal auditors, whose 1984 review found "unsafe and unsound lending practices."

An Uncomfortable Start

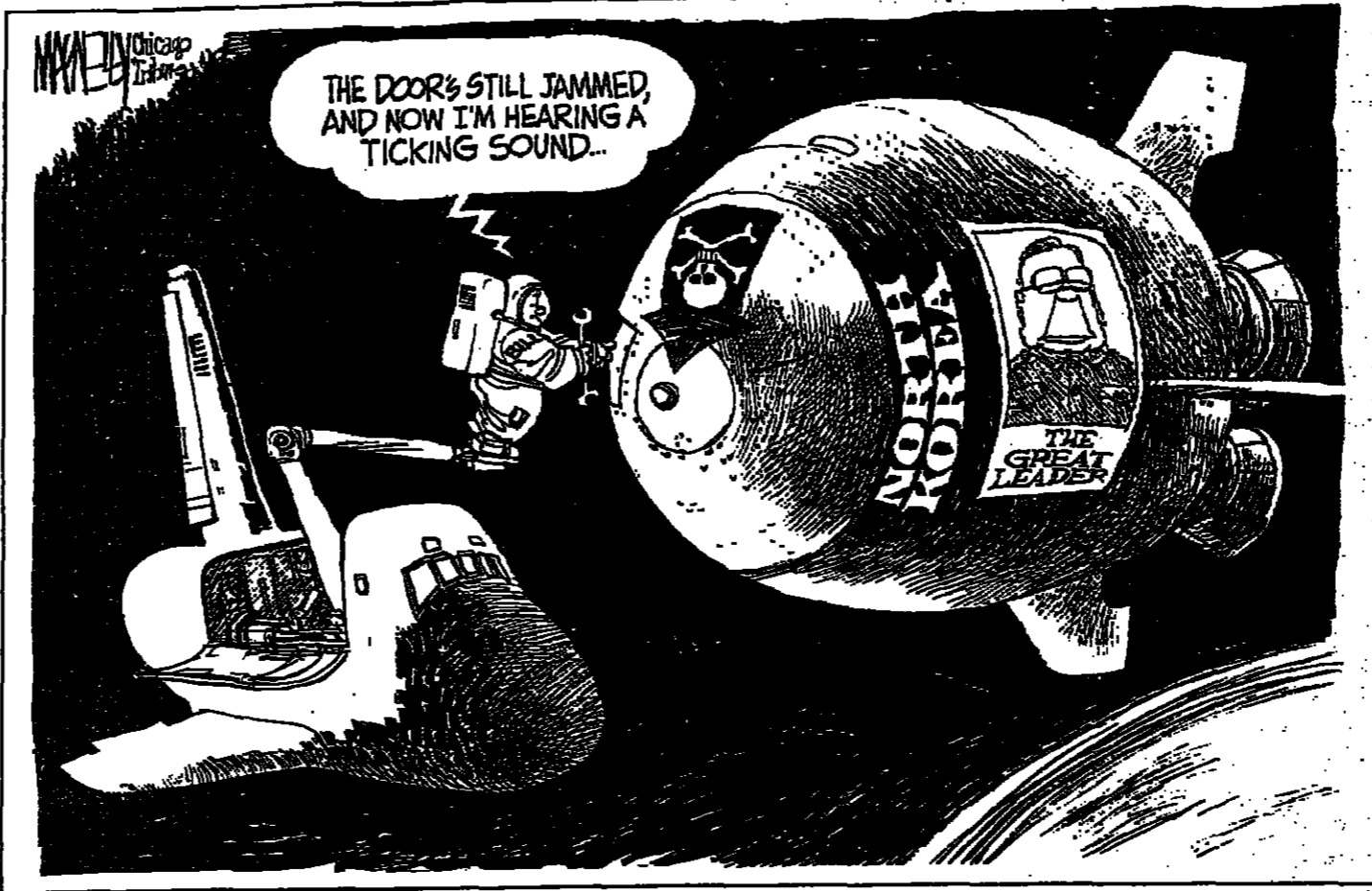
Bill Clinton sent a great many messages last week with his rapid replacement of Defense Secretary Les Aspin with Bob Ray Inman. Mr. Inman seemed to be sending some messages of his own. Much will depend on how the Clinton and Inman messages fit together.

make sure Mr. Clinton was qualified for the job the voters elected Mr. Clinton to fill. There have now been reports that unnamed White House aides cleared the remarks in advance and were content with them, even as other aides were said to be upset.

Putting the Staff on Board

The tentative agreement by United Airlines to sell a majority stake of the carrier to its employees is an attractive solution to a seemingly unsolvable financial problem. It could spread to the other major carriers and beyond.

agree to sizable cuts in wages and fringe benefits. The labor savings are expected to exceed \$5 billion over six years. In return, the unions will get 53 percent ownership of the airline.



Look, Bosnia and Its Horrors Haven't Gone Away

By Anthony Lewis

BOSTON — The story has moved off the front page. It is approaching the limits of the American public's attention span for even the most unrelenting horrors. The U.S. government has made a policy decision to ignore it.

At every hint of firm international action, the Serbs have pulled back.

ple and seeing that they die of the cold, for only one reason: because they are not Serbs. Although the newspaper and broadcast reports have become less prominent, anyone who wants to know what is happening in Bosnia can know. Here are some fragments of the news in the last month:

Dec. 14: Intense firefights and heavy shelling left at least 11 civilians dead and more than 20 wounded in Sarajevo today. "This shelling brings no gain in the military sense," the commander of the UN military force in Bosnia, General Francis Briguemont, said. "I've asked myself many times why it is that the city is shelled."

A Few Reasons for U.S. Engagement in the Pacific

By Charles R. Larson

Admiral Larson is commander in chief, U.S. Pacific Command.

FORT H. M. SMITH, Hawaii — Recent events in Somalia and Haiti have elicited a chorus of neo-isolationist sentiment in America. The refrain seems to be that the United States has no business "meddling" outside its borders.

most steadfast allies. The North has test-launched the Nodong missile, a potential nuclear delivery system, to ranges that can target large portions of Japan, another key U.S. ally. Thus Korea emerges as a litmus test of U.S. strategic resolve. Could things be worse? Absolutely.

with every strategic player except North Korea, lending a valuable perspective on the capabilities and intentions of regional decision makers. Not to play down the seriousness of the Korean situation, but things could be worse. They are not worse because America has maintained its Asian presence and cooperatively engaged the nations of this area for the past several decades.

For Castro, New Era and Old Clothes

In the following excerpts, Fidel Castro, the Cuban leader, replies to questions from Gas Gavronski, an Italian journalist and member of the European Parliament.

In Cuba one continues to talk about "revolution" and about "socialism" as if nothing had changed in the surrounding world. But for you, do these words have the same meaning as when you began your odyssey 35 years ago?

All American presidents in their first term spend their time thinking about their second one as their primary objective. During the first one, they are very cautious and wary about taking new initiatives. For all these reasons, for the moment there are no negotiations going on to improve relations, except for secondary matters such as the question of immigration.

A Success In Helping The Poor

By Jessica Mathews

NEW YORK — Mohammed Yunus is an academic turned banker in Bangladesh who has turned the most sacred rules of the profession upside down and made himself a frequently mentioned Nobel Prize candidate in the process. He did not plan it that way. Twenty years ago, Mr. Yunus was simply moved to try to help the abject poor who lived near the university where he taught economics.

But the bankers still could not be convinced that Mr. Yunus's vision was sound and would not lead to his borrowers defaulting. Nothing, he concluded, would convince them. He would have to set up his own bank. After three years spent securing government support, the Grameen ("rural" in Bengali) Bank was created in 1983.

Experience showed that the payoff from loans to men often did not filter its way back to their wives and children. The benefit to whole families was much more reliable when the borrower was a woman. In spite of enormous tensions in borrowers' marriages in a culture where women have few economic rights, today nearly all borrowers are women.

IN OUR PAGES: 100, 75 AND 50 YEARS AGO

1893: Love's Labor Lost LONDON — A curious action heard in the Queen's Bench yesterday [Dec. 20] was that brought by Lady Mabel Lievier to recover possession of letters written by her to Mr. Crosbie during their engagement. It had lasted from February to September, 1892, but Lady Mabel came to the conclusion that Mr. Crosbie wanted to marry her for her money. She broke with him, and returned him his letters. Society had published imputations upon Mr. Crosbie, based on a conversation her ladyship had had with the editor, Mr. Justice Hawkins, said he thought it competent for the defendant to keep the letters.

1943: Arawe Captured ADVANCED ALLIED HEADQUARTERS, New Guinea — [From our New York edition:] American troops captured the Arawe air strip in southwestern New Britain Sunday [Dec. 29]. General Douglas MacArthur announced today in a communique. It had apparently not been used for months by the Japanese. The Americans captured it in an advance six miles east of Cape Merkus, where they landed Wednesday. Allied planes dropped a record 414 tons of bombs on the enemy's air installations at Cape Glojocster, New Britain, also on Sunday.

International Herald Tribune contact information including addresses in New York, London, Paris, and other cities, along with phone and fax numbers.

سكنا من الأصل

OPINION

Yeltsin: Take It From Me, It Was My Kind of Election

By William Safire

MOSCOW — The referendum and elections worked out as planned: I, Boris Yeltsin, am now the most powerful Kremlin leader since Yuri Andropov, and — at the same time — I am the only hope of the Western world.

My new villain says nothing disrespectful about me. Instead, he frightens everybody into my embrace.

unpublished polls showing reformers losing, they begged me to denounce Vladimir Zhirinovskiy.

Now, or "who against whom." First, I was against Mikhail Gorbachev, then against the Communist parliament. Now I will have a new villain: Vladimir (Adolfovich) Zhirinovskiy.

I do not call him fascist, of course. I am like the American Eisenhower with Senator McCarthy, never engaging in personalities. Instead, my man Andrei Kozirev calls Mr. Zhirinovskiy a potential Hitler, and urges reformers to unite with Communists behind me to stop this terrible man.

Let others attack him; I say nothing. Notice how, in return, my new villain says nothing disrespectful about me. Instead, he frightens everybody into my embrace.



By MOCHALOV in New Times (Moscow), C&W Syndicate.

murders about my promise to run for the presidency next June have stopped; now they beg me to run only when my term expires in 1996. Nothing will bring in aid faster than the fear of "who lost Russia?"

more his followers will lionize him. But my abandonment of the reformers worked. I have taken off the Western pressure to privatize our economy, and can move to the popular middle; I have concentrated constitutional power in my own hands; I have helped create a beatable bogeyman to make me indispensable.

Thinking of Taking the Elevator?

By Garrison Keillor

NEW YORK — On an elevator I watch the numbers over the door as they light up or I examine the shoes of other passengers.

small disaster though. It would be big, perhaps the sort that makes a guy quit his job and move to Vermont and dip candles for a living.

MEANWHILE

An elevator is a box on a string. A delicate mechanism. Some are ancient; you hear chains clanking and wonder: "If it plunged 20 stories to the basement, would I stand a better chance of survival if I jumped up in the air just before it hit bottom?"

Elevators don't come with written guarantees. But some come with telephones for emergency use, not a reassuring thought to those of us with extensive telephone experience in New York City.

Yes, probably it is. New York (journalists have more to do than record small disasters — "6 Sweat for 2 Hours in Trapped Elevator; 'I Was Afraid This Might Happen,'" Says Man, 51" — and so, yes, probably it happens all the time.

It is pitch black. Someone says, "Everybody just stay calm" in a weird little voice.

I sit quietly in the corner and retrace these fateful steps that led me to take this exact elevator. Why didn't I duck into the coffee shop as I was just about to do and grab a buttered bagel?

I was going to, but then I thought: "Nope, I'm two minutes late for the meeting and I don't want to alienate those folks now with my career going

downhill the way it is." So I dashed for this elevator. Now I am huddled here with eight panicky people listening to acetylene torches cutting through steel beams a few inches away.

When the rescuers finally tear a hole in the door with crowbars and we crawl to safety, dusty and smelling like old camels, do you think they'll write out a slip for me, saying: "Please excuse Mr. Keillor for being tardy. He was trapped in an elevator?"

When I tell friends, "I was trapped in an elevator recently and as a result I am not the same guy," they say things like, "I have always been afraid of that myself."

In the city of New York, you go out your door in the morning, you take your life in your hands. You may not get off an elevator the same person you got on as. Choose your elevator wisely.

Mr. Keillor is the author, most recently, of "A Book of Guys." He contributed this column to The New York Times.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Rushtdie's Lingering Saga

In response to "Here and There, the Righteous Don't Like to Learn" (Opinion, Dec. 7) by William Jaffel:

Salman Rushtdie's ongoing campaign to drum up outrage against his death sentence is not just "understandable," as Mr. Jaffel is willing to allow, it is essential. For unless it gets results, it will be interestingly uncomfortable for many to "get on with their writing."

TOM STORER, Paris.

work, but doesn't say why, other than to assert that the idea is based on "ignorance or distortion of drug realities."

How about making narcotics a prescription item, only available to certified addicts? It would be pointless for sellers to hook new clients since, once hooked, they would have an alternative, cheap supplier.

JOHN LOWRY, Nyon, Switzerland.

it, but for me it was my life: my driver's license, credit cards, date book, addresses and telephone numbers, Social Security card, medical insurance cards, and, most precious of all, a note that my mother wrote me the morning of the day she died, absolutely irreplaceable.

I left for Italy that day. On my return to New York, I received a package from Paris with my wallet in it. The blessed person who sent it must have picked my wallet up and immediately taken it to the post office.

PATRICIA KONECKY, New York.

A Different Travel Tale

Everyone has tales of woe about travel. But I have a story so beautiful that even I find it hard to believe.

On Oct. 21, I dropped my wallet on the street in Paris. It was cold and late afternoon, just getting dark, and I didn't notice that my purse was open. It wasn't until late that night that I realized it was gone.

A Custom to Be Banned

Last March, the International Fellowship of Reconciliation raised the serious issue of sexual mutilation being prac-

ticed in some societies, at a meeting of the United Nations Commission on Human Rights. As Fellowship representatives at the United Nations in Geneva, we shall bring it up again in February. It is time for the international organization to take a firm position on an issue that has been under study in the United Nations since the late 1970s.

Measures of a legal nature can be taken only at the national level, as has been done in France, Switzerland and Sweden. Governments in most African and Middle Eastern states where the practice is widespread are too weak or too divided on the matter to pass legislation.

Estimates of the number of women who have suffered from this practice range from 100 million to 200 million, with some 2 million — mainly babies or children — being added each year.

Nongovernmental organizations play an active role in seeking the abolition of these non-Koran practices, which are actually pre-Islamic customs that became prevalent in places where Islam later spread. There is no religious justification for these "traditional practices," which are maintained only out of fear

and ignorance. Unfortunately, a 1981 fatwa, or decree, by the Grand Sheikh of Al Azhar referred to traditional Islamic law, which considers circumcision for male children an obligation and excision for female children a "recommendation," thus placing a heavy responsibility on traditionalist parents.

RENE WADLOW, DAVID LITTMAN, Geneva.

Pensioners to the Rescue?

In response to "Europe's Ailing Pensioners" (Dec. 4) by Erik Iyssen:

Many of today's retirees could do with a lot less than the amount they currently receive in pensions and retirement bonuses. Times are tough, will get tougher, and we should all share the burden. We should cut back benefits to a level sustainable over the coming decades in a manner that provides equitable support for all generations — not just those who go to retirement first.

CHARLES BODWELL, Vienna.

Power of the Press

In response to "Who Stole the News?" (Books, Nov. 25) by Mark Hershgold:

At issue is a press that has an inflated view of its power and moral authority. Members of the press need to believe that they can shape the course of history by telling us what they think we need to hear. Sorry, but there are plenty of other ways to get international news, with yet more to come. Today, power is in the hands of media consumers and no longer in the hands of editors, newswriters and television newscasters.

CHARLES F. ANDERSON, San Francisco.

Who's That Whining?

William Safire's opinion column "A Whining Clinton and Two Others" (Nov. 23) is an excellent example of the adage that one criticizes and ascribes to others faults that are actually one's own. It is Mr. Safire who is doing the whining, not President Bill Clinton.

MARIAN G. KUHN, Bembridge, Isle of Wight, England.

BOOKS

FRANCIS BACON: His Life and Violent Times

By Andrew Sinclair, Illustrated. 354 pages. \$30. Crown Publishers.

Reviewed by Michiko Kakutani

THE images created by Francis Bacon are shocking ones, visceral, contorted, often horrific: Human beings metamorphosing into demonic birds and dogs, their bodies twisted unmercifully into grimaces of pain.

In such images can be read the horrors of our century: the devastation of two world wars, the crimes of Hitler and Stalin, the terrors of the atom bomb, the dissections of a world shorn of its illusions.

As Bacon once observed, his ambition was to paint "the History of Europe in my lifetime." "I think of myself," he said, "as a kind of pulverizing machine into which everything I look at and feel is fed."

In "Francis Bacon: His Life and Violent Times," the writer and social historian Andrew Sinclair attempts both to chronicle the painter's life and to situate his work within a historical context.

WHAT THEY'RE READING

William D. Montalbano, the Rome bureau chief of the Los Angeles Times, is reading "The Culture of Complaint: The Fraying of America" by Robert Hughes.

"Hughes writes with an adopted son's passion of a society so enmeshed in self-consuming cop-out triviality that it is unable to come to terms either with its own fraying social and political fabric, or a world wracked by epochal change." (Barry James, 1B7)

Though the volume relies heavily at times on earlier books (including David Sylvester's fascinating "Interviews With Francis Bacon" and John Russell's "Francis Bacon"), it also draws upon the author's own talks with the painter, and it succeeds in giving the reader a vivid sense of both Bacon's maturation as a painter and the ways in which his work was shaped by his times.

CHESS

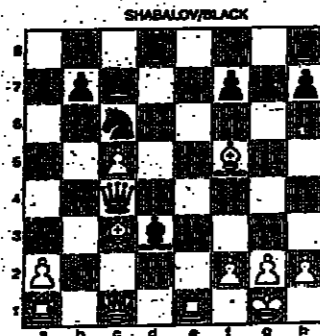
By Robert Byrne

The Enhance Financial Services Chess Challenge, staged Oct. 4 to 13 at the Marshall Chess Club in Manhattan, finished in a rousing triumph for Maurice Ashley, a 27-year-old Brooklyn international master.

Ashley showed his tactical skill against Alexander Shabalov in Round 8 on Oct. 11.

Late in the 19th century, the exchange with 3d ed was discarded as a sterile weapon against the French Defense, but currently some players are trying to get something out of breaking the symmetry with 4 c4. It is quite acceptable for Black to defend quietly, after 4...Nf6 5 Nc3, with 5...Be7, but Shabalov is a hyperaggressive player, as he revealed by counterattacking with 5...Bb4 6 Be3 c5.

In this type of situation, where the center pawns are bound to be exchanged off, the advantage will go to the one whose pieces gain the resulting dominating positions.



Position after 17...Qe4

Shabalov's 9...Bg4 was an attempt to lure White to weaken the g1-h7 diagonal with 10 f3, but Ashley was willing to take him up on the complications arising from 10 O-O? Be3 11 Ne3 12 Qe2.

Of course, he had to return the piece after 15 Be5 and 16 Be3.

Ashley quickly pounced on the error. After 16 Be3 Bd3 17 Qe1, Shabalov could not capture a pawn with 17...Qc5 because of 18 Be5 Kb6 19 Be7 Kb5 20 Qd4 Kc5 21 Qb2 Kc4 22 Ra1 Kd5 23 Re5 Ne5 24 Qe5 Kc6 25 Re5 mate. So he tried 17...Qe4, but Ashley scored an annihilating shot with 18 Re4!

There was no defense. On 18...Be4, there would have come 19 Qf4 Ne5 20 Qe5 Kc6 21 Be4 Kb5 22 Rb1 Ka4 23 Be2 Ka3 24-c6 b5 25 Qe7 b4 26 Qd7. Shabalov played 18...Nc4, but after 19 Qf4 Kc5 20 Bd4 Rd5 21 Bg7 Qc2 Re1, he took the easy way out and gave up.

Table with chess notation: FRENCH DEFENSE, White Ashley, Black Shabalov, moves 1-17.

style and to the work of artists who would indubitably shape his own vision. From Edward Munch and the German Expressionists, Sinclair notes, Bacon would learn about the iconography of emotional violence; from Otto Dix, Christian Schad and other practitioners of New Objectivity, he would learn the value of precision and detachment.

Paris, the next stop on Bacon's youthful odyssey, provided another set of influences: Picasso and his Cubist reassemblings of the human body, and the Surrealists, with their emphasis on instinct and the unconscious. It was also in Paris that Bacon came to appreciate the cinematic genius of Eisenstein and Buñuel, and value the art of photography (he would base many of his later paintings on Edward Muybridge's action shots of animals and people in motion).

Throughout this book, Sinclair doggedly traces the autobiographical impulse in Bacon's work. He does a jumble job of explicating the many influences on his work, from Goya and Velázquez to Aeschylus and T. S. Eliot, and he also provides an ample supply of colorful anecdotes illustrating the painter's raucous, bohemian life.

None of these words, however, really conjures up a full picture of the man; as far as this volume is concerned, Bacon, who died in 1992 at the age of 82, remains a slippery, mercurial figure, eluding capture in the biographer's cage.

It is in evoking Bacon's tumultuous times and tracing the conjunctions between the painter's work and world that Sinclair is most convincing. Indeed, he makes a powerful case in these pages for regarding Bacon as a representative artist of the violent and disordered modern age.

Michiko Kakutani is on the staff of The New York Times.

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China Holds a Key In North Korea Rift

Beijing Appears to Rule Out Sanctions in Nuclear Dispute

By Michael Richardson
International Herald Tribune
SINGAPORE — As pressure from the United States and South Korea for an international embargo against North Korea increased Monday, analysts said China appeared unlikely to back such a move.

They said that Beijing's refusal to support United Nations economic sanctions, particularly an oil embargo, against its close neighbor and nominal ally would doom the attempt to failure and allow North Korea to continue its clandestine nuclear program.

The United States is considering sanctions as a possible instrument in an attempt to persuade North Korea to open its nuclear installations to thorough inspection by the

Yonhap said Seoul and Washington will not make any further concessions to Pyongyang and may push for sanctions to force the North to allow inspections.

During a meeting at the UN on Monday, North Korea delivered a formal response to the latest U.S. proposals, but details of it were not immediately disclosed.

In a meeting with North Korean officials on Dec. 10, the U.S. offered to cancel a major military exercise held each year in South Korea and to hold talks on economic aid and diplomatic recognition of the North.

This was on the condition that Pyongyang allow full inspection of its nuclear facilities and reopen a continuous dialogue with South Korea over an earlier pact to demilitarize the peninsula.

The U.S. will press for a UN oil embargo against North Korea if further talks fail to persuade it to comply with anti-nuclear agreements, Thomas F. (Mack) McLarty, the White House chief of staff, said Sunday on American television.

Winston Lord, assistant secretary of state for East Asian and Pacific Affairs, said recently that Beijing had been helpful in using its influence on North Korea over the nuclear issue.

"The fact is that China has a great self-interest in making sure that the Korean Peninsula does not become infested with nuclear weapons," he said. "If that happens, it's a threat over time to China itself. That could cause Japan to react."

NEWS ANALYSIS

United Nations. Imposing sanctions would require backing from China, which has veto power as one of the five permanent members of the UN Security Council.

"I don't think we can really count on China's influence," said Masashi Nishihara, director of research at the National Institute for Defense Studies in Tokyo.

He said Beijing had evidently concluded that North Korea could not develop a nuclear bomb in the near future.

But Beijing was also worried that if sanctions were effective and the North Korean economy collapsed, there would be a flood of Korean refugees into China. Mr. Nishihara said.

Since Russia cut off oil supplies in 1991, two thirds of North Korea's petroleum needs have been provided by China.

At issue in the current dispute is North Korea's refusal to allow UN inspections to verify that the North is honoring a treaty commitment not to develop nuclear arms.

The United States has taken the lead in trying to negotiate a way out of the impasse. But on Monday, the South Korean news agency

asked if Mr. Occhetto should lead that government, some 58 percent said no.

"I think it's a positive sign that in Europe, people can think it would not be scandalous for me to be prime minister," Mr. Occhetto, 57, said in an interview.

"But personally, I think that if it's better to choose someone else to broaden the alliance, we can choose someone else to be a candidate for prime minister," he said.

Such equivocation seems to reflect a desire to avoid alienating any possible allies who might join the leftist coalition against the emergent and divided right, which includes Umberto Bossi of the Northern League, who has labeled Mr. Occhetto a "lap dog," and the neofascist leader, Gianfranco Fini.

Such permutations have arisen from the collapse of Italy's traditional center of gravity — the Christian Democrats, the Socialists and their allies — because of the investigations into billion-dollar kickbacks paid by businessmen to politicians.

Mr. Occhetto himself spent two hours with the Milan investigators this month, not, he insisted, because there were any charges against him, but because he wished to rebut charges made by the former leader of the Socialists, Bettino Craxi, who is one of the most prominent of the 3,000 people implicated in the scandal.

"With the exception of a few specific cases, we were not involved in 'Tangentopoli,'" Mr. Occhetto said, referring to the scandal by its Italian nickname, which translates as "bribe city."

Not everyone accepts that account. Mr. Craxi told a court Friday that the Communist Party became the biggest of its kind in Western Europe through illicit financing from the Soviet Union — a matter that magistrates have apparently not explored and that the former Communists deny.

With victory in the mayoral vote, Mr. Occhetto said, he has been vindicated in leading his party away from communism, though its ideal-



LET A HUNDRED CANDLES BURN — The unveiled statue of Mao Zedong in Shaoshan, Hunan Province, his birthplace. Mao, who died in 1976, would have been 100 next Sunday.

attempts to persuade them to desist from going down the nuclear road," he said.

Nonetheless, Boutros Boutros Ghali, the UN secretary-general, said in Tokyo on Monday that he was optimistic that Pyongyang would agree to a negotiated solution of the nuclear issue.

He will be the first UN chief since 1979 to visit North Korea. He travels to South Korea on Wednesday and to the North on Friday.

Italian National University in Canberra, said China's room to maneuver was limited by its strong support for the principle of noninterference in the internal affairs of other countries — a principle that China depended upon to defend itself against U.S. and other Western states' criticism of its record on human rights and democracy.

"Since the Chinese apply the noninterference rule so strictly in self-defense, they can hardly go

Sinn Fein Demands Release Of All Imprisoned IRA Rebels

By Eugene Robinson
Washington Post Service
LONDON — The leader of the Irish Republican Army's political unit said Monday that all "political prisoners" must be released as part of a peace deal in Northern Ireland — something Britain has said it will not do.

"A negotiated settlement will remove the symptoms as well as the causes of the conflict," said Gerry Adams, head of Sinn Fein, the IRA's political arm. "As part of this it is obvious that all prisoners must be released."

If Mr. Adams makes that a firm demand, prospects for a Northern Ireland peace agreement may dim. Prime Minister John Major said repeatedly that there are no political prisoners in British jails, only criminals. He has vowed there will be no amnesty for captured IRA gunmen and bombers.

Protestant unionist leaders reacted sharply, saying that any talk of amnesty might make them withdraw their cautious support for the joint declaration on Northern Ireland issued last week by Mr. Major and the Irish prime minister, Albert Reynolds.

The IRA has waged a 25-year campaign to drive the British out of Northern Ireland and join with the Irish Republic. Unionists, who constitute a majority, favor remaining part of Britain. After more than 3,000 deaths and billions of dollars' worth of damage, the initiative launched by Mr. Major and Mr. Reynolds

last week was hailed as potentially the best chance for peace in years.

The IRA has said it is studying the declaration, in which the two leaders offered Sinn Fein a seat at the bargaining table within three months if it renounced violence. Unionist paramilitary groups have also said they will study the initiative.

The issue of prisoners arose this weekend when Mr. Reynolds hinted that an amnesty was among the "areas for discussion" once a halt to violence had been achieved. British officials immediately denied that any amnesty was under discussion. But then Mr. Adams made his statement, crediting Mr. Reynolds with having raised the issue.

Kenneth Maginnis, security spokesman for the Ulster Unionist Party — the voice of moderate unionists in Northern Ireland — responded with a threat to withdraw the party's "tentative approval" of the peace initiative.

He blamed Mr. Reynolds for his "unnecessary and unhelpful" remarks that amounted to "almost enticing Mr. Adams to make this sort of demand, which certainly cannot be met."

At issue, according to Sinn Fein, are more than 500 convicted IRA members in Northern Ireland jails, about 150 more awaiting trial and around 30 others incarcerated in Britain. There are also believed to be several hundred unionist paramilitaries jailed in Northern Ireland.

'Red Menace?' or 'New Left?'

Italy's Former Communists Walk on Tiptoes

By Alan Cowell
New York Times Service
ROME — It is sometimes said that Achille Occhetto, the leader of Italy's former Communists, is indecisive. These days, as he contemplates a twist of fortune that may turn him into his country's next prime minister, it might be more accurate to say that it is not yet the time to make up his mind.

Slouched in a black leather armchair at an office that once represented the closest Western Europe came to its own Red Menace, Mr. Occhetto casts himself these days as the rallying point of what he terms "the New Left," an ill-defined amalgam of social benevolence and market forces, free enterprise and environmental concerns that captured a yearning for renewal in the Italian spirit in mayoral elections this month.

With municipalities from Naples to Venice now run by leftist-backed figures, the challenge facing Mr. Occhetto is to translate a local vote into a national consensus that will fill the vacuum left by the disgrace of Italy's former political elite in the country's huge corruption scandal.

ogy had already moved progressively away from ties to the East long before the fall of the Berlin Wall.

With the party on a sudden roll, and with Italian politics fixated on the notion of honesty in government affairs, Mr. Occhetto is preying for two things to happen quickly — national elections and trials for those implicated in the corruption scandal "to get out of this huge national nightmare."

Italy's Parliament, elected in April 1992 before the full extent of "Tangentopoli" became known, is dominated by a coalition of the same parties that have been discredited by the scandal. Many of the lawmakers will probably face prosecution once they lose their parliamentary immunity.

His proposal is that, as soon as Parliament gives final approval to a belt-tightening 1994 budget this week, it be dissolved to open the way for an election under a new, majority voting system that is supposed to make each candidate more accountable to the voters in his constituency.

The thrust of a conversation with him is that he wants to assure foreigners and foreign markets as much as he does the Italian voters that the party has fundamentally changed.

That presents something of a quandary, requiring him to weigh market pressures against more humane considerations. If he took power, Mr. Occhetto said, he would pursue goals like privatization of Italy's vast state industries while seeking to offset layoffs and other consequences affecting the workers who form part of his constituency.

Most of all, Mr. Occhetto seemed to emphasize that any ties with the old Soviet way of communism were long past.

When the Berlin Wall finally fell in 1989, he said, "things were changing not only in the East but in the West."

"And it was not possible to enter this new phase with a party that was tied to the past."

In the current swirl of Italy's politics, where eddies of corruption compete with shoals of conspiracy to capsize most guessing about the future, his noncommittal tactics may turn out to be just as appropriate as the bluster and bravura of his rightist adversaries.

If his strategy succeeds, it will mean that, after decades in opposition, the country's former Communists will finally take power just when the country is confronting its worst postwar economic and political crisis — another cause for Mr. Occhetto's circumspection.

Recent opinion surveys indicate that some two-thirds of Italians believe that his party — the Democratic Party of the Left, as the former Communist Party is now known — will play the central role in a new government that many reform-minded politicians want to be formed next March. But when

asked if Mr. Occhetto should lead that government, some 58 percent said no.

"I think it's a positive sign that in Europe, people can think it would not be scandalous for me to be prime minister," Mr. Occhetto, 57, said in an interview.

"But personally, I think that if it's better to choose someone else to broaden the alliance, we can choose someone else to be a candidate for prime minister," he said.

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God's Place Debated In Germany

By Reuters
BONN — German politicians argued over God's place in the country's constitution on Monday after Chancellor Helmut Kohl's Christian Democrats accused a political opponent of wanting the name deleted.

The line in the preamble to the text says that Germans adopted their constitution "conscious of their responsibility before God and men."

Günter Verheugen, party manager of the opposition Social Democrats, came under fire not only from the Christian Democrats but also from his own ranks for making the suggestion in a newspaper article. The attacks prompted Mr. Verheugen to deny later that he was pushing for the change to be made.

He said the accusations were based on comments he made six months ago before he became party manager and that they were purely personal. He had said the reference to God did not make sense in a constitution in which state and church are separated.

A Christian Democratic Union member, Rita Waschbüsch, president of the central committee of German Roman Catholics, told the daily Die Welt that God was a guarantee for democratic and human values. "There are urgent examples in recent history how God was missing from the state order and people made themselves into gods," she said, alluding to Hitler's Nazi tyranny.

Gravestones Desecrated
Assaults overturned or damaged 35 gravestones in Worms, an apparent neo-Nazi desecration of the largest and oldest Jewish cemetery in Europe, prosecutors said Monday, according to The Associated Press.

Secret Hiroshima Film Is Discovered in Japan

United Press International
TOKYO — The uncut version of a documentary shot immediately after the atomic bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki was discovered in the archives of a film company where it had been hidden for 48 years to prevent confiscation by the Allied powers, the Kyodo News Service reported Monday.

The film depicts the devastating aftermath of the nuclear raids that ended World War II in the Pacific, focusing on the ordeals of victims and rescue measures, a spokesman for Nippon Eiga Shinsha Co. told Kyodo.

The 15 negative film reels, with a total screening time of three hours, were packed in a metal box labeled "Atomic Bombing" and hidden in the company's archives.

The company plans a nationwide release of the work on video to mark the 50th anniversary of the bombings in 1995.

A 30-member crew from the company's wartime predecessor, Nippon Eiga Sha, shot the material in 35mm format while accompanying a group of physicists on a survey tour of the bombed areas, Kyodo reported.

In early 1946, the General Headquarters of the Allied Powers banned further filming and ordered confiscation of all film that was not included in a 1946 U.S. documentary.

One of the cameramen, Suetō Inoue, 82, of Nagasaki, and some of his colleagues secretly copied part of the material before handing it over to the headquarters and concealed it at a processing laboratory.

"When the confiscation order was issued, I thought this inevitably meant that the material would never be returned," Mr. Inoue told Kyodo.

Wallace Bennett Dies, Ex-Senator From Utah

The Associated Press
SALT LAKE CITY, Utah — Wallace F. Bennett, 95, a conservative Republican who was a U.S. senator from Utah for 24 years, died Sunday.

Mr. Bennett suffered a slight fall Saturday at his Salt Lake City home.

"He went to bed to rest and never woke up," said his youngest son, Senator Robert F. Bennett.

Jeremiah A. O'Leary Jr., 74, Washington Journalist
WASHINGTON (AP) — Jeremiah A. O'Leary Jr., 74, a veteran Washington reporter and columnist, died of circulatory problems Sunday.

A lifelong Washington journalist, Mr. O'Leary was chief White House correspondent for the Washington Star for a decade before going to the Washington Times as its White House correspondent in 1982.

Joseph Bell, 89, a former Republican senator from Minnesota who lost his seat to Hubert H. Humphrey in 1948, died of a stroke Saturday.

Moses Caim, 64, an actor whose career of more than three decades included roles ranging from Ortelio to Booker T. Washington, died Friday in Guilford, Connecticut, of problems brought on by asthma.

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International Herald Tribune
Tuesday, December 21, 1993
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The Latest Jet Set Put-On Festive Jewelry: Only Black Will Do

By Suzy Menkes
International Herald Tribune

PARIS—Jet jewelry has gone from mourning to evening, the dark stones, as black as coal but glistening like caviar, entwined throats and decorate bosoms this winter — just as they did a century ago in that other fin de siècle. But joining the jet set in the 1990s is quite different from the days when an aged Queen Victoria was on the throne, her husband was in his grave, and jet was part of an elaborate mourning ritual.

Jet is now design jewelry — used to lift an evening outfit from sober to sumptuous. It has become a splash of glamour in the wave of black clothing that has overtaken fashion this season.

Donna Karan had jet drooping like tendrils of ivy in long chains over layers of dark clothes. Anna Sui made jet sexy, sewing it in strategic clumps on lacy bras. Ralph Lauren showed the jet checker as part of his Russian collection, mixing it with russet paisley patterns for a contrast of color and texture. Christian Lacroix took inspiration from the Edwardian era, making wide chokers or using delicate jet embroidery enmeshed with a patchwork of lace.

For Yves Saint Laurent, jet was scattered like black stardust on a crusty black lace cocktail dress. Valentino let it fall in a shower of stripes; Oscar de la Renta at Balmain buried it in velvet. Ann Demeulemeester used jet primly, cutting up pieces of antique embroidery as appliques on shiny satin dresses or dull wool jackets.

Jet does not have to come out only at night. It makes a dramatic statement as a splatter of licorice, black on the lapels of a scarlet wool coat; or it can be a dark patch on gray flannel.

The contrast with 100 years ago comes when jet shadows and shades see-through materials. Although Edwardians favored lacy fabrics, they were not worn over bare flesh. Now transparent tulle or sheer chiffon are made dense and decent with black bead embroidery. So jet has become seductive decoration, used to highlight and accent clothes, and what was once used for lamentation now suggests the merriest of widows.

Jewelry too has become bold and daring. Today's abstract pins or dainty earrings are a far cry from the lush brooches once pinned to widows' weeds.

Why jet? Why now? It is partly just the shift in fashion, which is taking off the 1980s glitz after a surfeit of gilt bangles and baroque stones. Both psychologically and in its penitential style, jet fits the current mood.

And who still wears jet for mourning? The origins of the polished driftwood go back to prehistory, to Greeks, Romans and Chinese. Jet was used as an amulet to ward off the evil eye, even before it was taken up as a Christian symbol in the Middle Ages. Right up to recent times, ancient superstitions about avoiding reflected images in a mourning period encouraged the use of jet in its unpolished, mat version. The elaborate cult of the dead, which produced

memoriam and a rigid code of dress and decoration, has now been abandoned, except in a few remaining communities. The idea is now to celebrate the lives of the departed, rather than to honor them with ritual clothing.

For eminent Victorians the complex rules were a belated status quo and signaled wealth and status. Wearing the correct degree of mourning became a social mine field, according to Lou Taylor in "Mourning Dress," published in London in 1983. She quotes a young woman describing the "horror" of her family as she appeared on Queen Victoria's funeral day in 1901 in "a rich violet costume," which was "the only bit of colour in all London."

All that paraphernalia of mourning is now dead and buried. And when an item of apparel loses its natural function, it tends to become fashionable. Humble aprons, military uniforms or peasant skirts are all turning up in fashion collections, now that they have more or less disappeared from society.

So it is with jet. It has become just another fashion item, its shimmer and gleam appropriate to the festive season.

If you want to buy jet as a gift or for yourself, what should you buy? Real jet Victorian pieces were produced mostly in Whitby, a coastal town in the north of England. They were carved into flowers and leaves, decorated with symbols, names and messages, sculpted into lockets and pins, and were often solid (not to stay solid) in shape. That traditional mourning jewelry can be found in antique stores and thrift shops.

You do not necessarily need to beware of imitations. Antique pieces may be in black glass paste, once known as "French jet," or in ebony and vulcanite, early synthetics. Such pieces may seem prettier and more decorative than genuine jet and will be made into hair combs or buckles as well as the familiar trinkets. By the 1890s, jet jewelry had followed current fashions and lightened up, with designs similar to various Art Nouveau swirls and scrolls.

Modern jet is now widely copied in plastic, making the fashionable look of the winter season available at inexpensive prices. A string of faceted beads looks much the same in its cheap and cheerful version as in the genuine article, although for complex workmanship you will need to buy either an old piece or a designer version. Favorite shapes are still the turn-of-the-century choker and small beads or carved pieces threaded into necklaces or bracelets.

Now that taboos have been lifted, jet is also being mixed with other stones — not just the diamonds and pearls that were always acceptable if you had the money and status, but wilder mixes of color and texture. Jet buttons are inset with ruby-red stones; earrings are framed in dull gilt or studded with coral.

To be at the height of fashion, it may be best to follow Henry Ford's dictum that you can have any color as long as it is black. But for the jet set, both the imagination and the variety is soaring up and away.

After a surfeit of gilt and baroque stones, jet fits the current mood.



For a splash of glamour in the wave of black clothing that has overtaken fashion, designers have turned to jet beads: Anna Sui's embroidered lacy bra, bolero and star pendant, above; Yves Saint Laurent's sparklers on a cocktail dress, top; turn-of-the-century choker and beaded embroidery by Christian Lacroix.



Merry New Age Holidays It's Getting to Be a Lot Like Solstice

By Molly O'Neill
New York Times Service

NEW YORK — This year's holiday greeting cards arrive. More traditions of the manger, more pictures of triumphant angels, more images of the big fat guy in the red suit.

But among the standard-issue greetings lurk notes of disaffection, even hints of rebellion.

"Lose your Xmas Depression!" reads one greeting card. "Celebrate Winter Solstice!"

"Solstice Claus is coming to town!" announces another.

The Hallmark Card Co. has yet to introduce a solstice line. And Paul Winter's "Solstice Live" recording hasn't replaced Bing Crosby's carols in homes across the country.

But winter solstice rituals, "Nutcracker"-scale pageants played out in the midnight mass mood, abound.

The events, which celebrate the return of light after the longest night of the year on Dec. 21 — Tuesday, this year — seem to be just the ticket for those whose seasonal sentiment runs toward the ecological, feminist, noncommercial and slightly pagan.

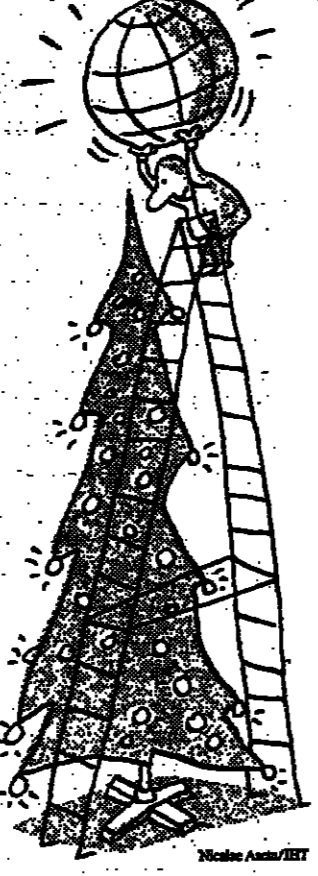
"Belong to a Christian church, but the winter solstice has more meaning to me and my family than Christmas," said Ronald Basto, a former classics professor who is a real estate broker in Amherst, Massachusetts.

The solstice predates the Roman Saturnalia, which predates Christmas. Solstice is more universal, more inclusive than most religious holidays. No matter what faith they are, everybody hates dark days; there's almost a biological urge to celebrate the return of light.

Some light a memorial, others a Christmas tree. Still others, like Basto, who refers to his solstice observance as "applied mythology," favor candles and bonfires.

LATTER-DAY solstice celebrants draw liberally from a panoply of folk traditions — Scandinavian, American Indian, Celtic, Asian and Egyptian lore are the most widely used — which makes the solstice a have-it-your-way sort of holiday.

Feminists and devotees of Wicca, the ancient cult of goddesses, tend to celebrate the solstice as the birthday of a cosmic mother. "Winter solstice is the moment of greatest darkness," said Phyllis Currott, a lawyer in Manhattan who is the first officer of the Covenant of the Goddess, an international organization of Wiccans.



For many who observe it, the solstice, with its hand-made feel and low-key candle-lit traditions, is an antidote to the rampant commercialism of Christmas.

"When the season reaches its frenzied crescendo just before Christmas, I already have the holidays behind me," said Burleigh Mitten, who publishes "The Return of the Goddess" engagement calendar.

"My husband and children and I celebrate on the 21st with a candle-lit tree, gifts, feasting and a bonfire. Then we have a few days of rest and quiet while everyone else is running around like maniacs."

For mixed-faith families, the solstice can be a celestial compromise.

"I'm Jewish, my husband is Catholic and solstice saves a lot of argument," said Marian Ackler, a social worker in San Francisco.

The American Atheist Society also supports the solstice celebration.

"With the diversity of world opinion and so many divisive areas, does it not make sense to convert festival times to neutral, national natural celebrations in which all peoples who call the earth home can participate as one?" said Jon G. Murray, the president of the society, which is based in Austin, Texas.

HOLLY, mistletoe and evergreen trees were all pagan symbols of the solstice, said Ellen Hopman, author of "Tree Medicine, Tree Magic" (Phoenix Publishing, 1991), a compendium of healing and mystical herbs.

"Wreaths represented the life cycle, frankincense was burned for purification, as was juniper," she said. "The pagan symbols were too powerful and pervasive to eliminate, so modern religions just coopted them."

Public celebrations use an even wider array of symbols than private ones do, and they are more spectacular and theatrical.

At the Cathedral of St. John the Divine, the first hour of mass is performed in darkness, before the folk dancers and musicians greet a giant brass gong that appears, like the sun, suspended above the audience. The troupe serenades a giant handmade "tree of life," then a spotlighted globe that materializes above the altar, like a Christmas ornament, hanging on an invisible tree.

It is an evening of slivers and tinges and awe. Just like Christmas used to be. But at the cathedral, there is also the palpable possibility that the 3,000 people in the audience will suddenly jump up, join hands and start singing "We are the World."

The solstice, it seems, offers a new Santa for a generation that wants to believe.

Collier or et brillants

Van Cleef & Arpels

"Il est des signatures auxquelles on tient"

Bague or et brillants

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NYSE

Monday's Closing

Tables include the nationwide price up to the closing on Wall Street and do not reflect late trades elsewhere. Via The Associated Press

12 Month High Low Day

Symbol	Price	% Chg	12 Month High	12 Month Low
IBM	100.00	+0.12	100.00	80.00
MSFT	34.00	+0.12	34.00	20.00
ORCL	28.00	+0.12	28.00	18.00
INTL	15.00	+0.12	15.00	10.00
GOOG	25.00	+0.12	25.00	15.00
AMZN	18.00	+0.12	18.00	12.00
EBAY	12.00	+0.12	12.00	8.00
SHOP	10.00	+0.12	10.00	7.00
WAL	22.00	+0.12	22.00	15.00
DIS	20.00	+0.12	20.00	15.00
WMT	18.00	+0.12	18.00	12.00
CVS	15.00	+0.12	15.00	10.00
UNH	12.00	+0.12	12.00	8.00
MRK	10.00	+0.12	10.00	7.00
ABB	8.00	+0.12	8.00	6.00
BDX	7.00	+0.12	7.00	5.00
AMT	6.00	+0.12	6.00	4.00
SPX	100.00	+0.12	100.00	80.00

Symbol	Price	% Chg
IBM	100.00	+0.12
MSFT	34.00	+0.12
ORCL	28.00	+0.12
INTL	15.00	+0.12
GOOG	25.00	+0.12
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AMT	6.00	+0.12

IBM shares rose 0.12 percent to \$100.00. Microsoft (MSFT) gained 0.12 percent to \$34.00. Oracle (ORCL) advanced 0.12 percent to \$28.00. International Business Machines (INTL) climbed 0.12 percent to \$15.00. Google (GOOG) rose 0.12 percent to \$25.00. Amazon (AMZN) gained 0.12 percent to \$18.00. eBay (EBAY) advanced 0.12 percent to \$12.00. Shop.com (SHOP) rose 0.12 percent to \$10.00. Wal-Mart (WAL) gained 0.12 percent to \$22.00. Disney (DIS) advanced 0.12 percent to \$20.00. Walmart (WMT) rose 0.12 percent to \$18.00. CVS Health (CVS) gained 0.12 percent to \$15.00. UnitedHealth Group (UNH) advanced 0.12 percent to \$12.00. Merck (MRK) rose 0.12 percent to \$10.00. Abbott Laboratories (ABB) gained 0.12 percent to \$8.00. Baxter International (BDX) advanced 0.12 percent to \$7.00. American International Group (AMT) rose 0.12 percent to \$6.00.

The S&P 500 index closed at 100.00, up 0.12 percent from the previous session. The Dow Jones Industrial Average rose 0.12 percent to 10,000.00. The Nasdaq Composite Index advanced 0.12 percent to 2,500.00. The Russell 2000 Index gained 0.12 percent to 1,500.00. The New York Stock Exchange reported a record volume of 1.5 billion shares traded. The market was characterized by steady gains across most sectors, with technology and healthcare leading the way.

IBM reported a record quarterly profit of \$1.5 billion, up from \$1.2 billion a year ago. The company's revenue also grew by 10 percent to \$10 billion. Microsoft's earnings rose 15 percent to \$1.8 billion, with revenue increasing by 12 percent to \$12 billion. Oracle's profit jumped 20 percent to \$2 billion, while revenue grew by 15 percent to \$15 billion. International Business Machines posted a 12 percent increase in profit to \$1.2 billion, with revenue up 8 percent to \$12 billion. Google's earnings rose 18 percent to \$2.5 billion, with revenue growing by 14 percent to \$25 billion. Amazon's profit increased 10 percent to \$1.8 billion, while revenue rose 11 percent to \$18 billion. eBay's earnings grew 8 percent to \$1.2 billion, with revenue up 7 percent to \$12 billion. Shop.com's profit rose 5 percent to \$1 billion, while revenue advanced 6 percent to \$10 billion. Wal-Mart's earnings increased 12 percent to \$2.2 billion, with revenue growing by 9 percent to \$22 billion. Disney's profit rose 10 percent to \$2 billion, while revenue advanced 8 percent to \$20 billion. Walmart's earnings grew 11 percent to \$1.8 billion, with revenue up 10 percent to \$18 billion. CVS Health's profit rose 9 percent to \$1.5 billion, while revenue advanced 7 percent to \$15 billion. UnitedHealth Group's earnings increased 8 percent to \$1.2 billion, with revenue up 6 percent to \$12 billion. Merck's profit rose 7 percent to \$1 billion, while revenue advanced 5 percent to \$10 billion. Abbott Laboratories' earnings grew 6 percent to \$800 million, while revenue advanced 4 percent to \$8 billion. Baxter International's profit rose 5 percent to \$700 million, while revenue advanced 3 percent to \$7 billion. American International Group's earnings increased 4 percent to \$600 million, while revenue advanced 2 percent to \$6 billion.

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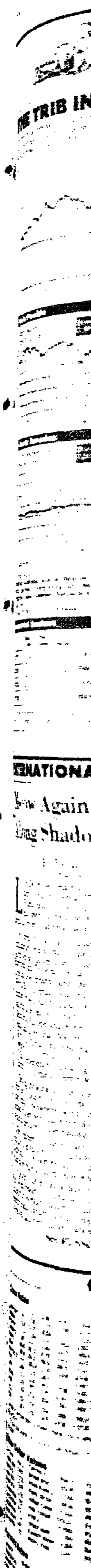
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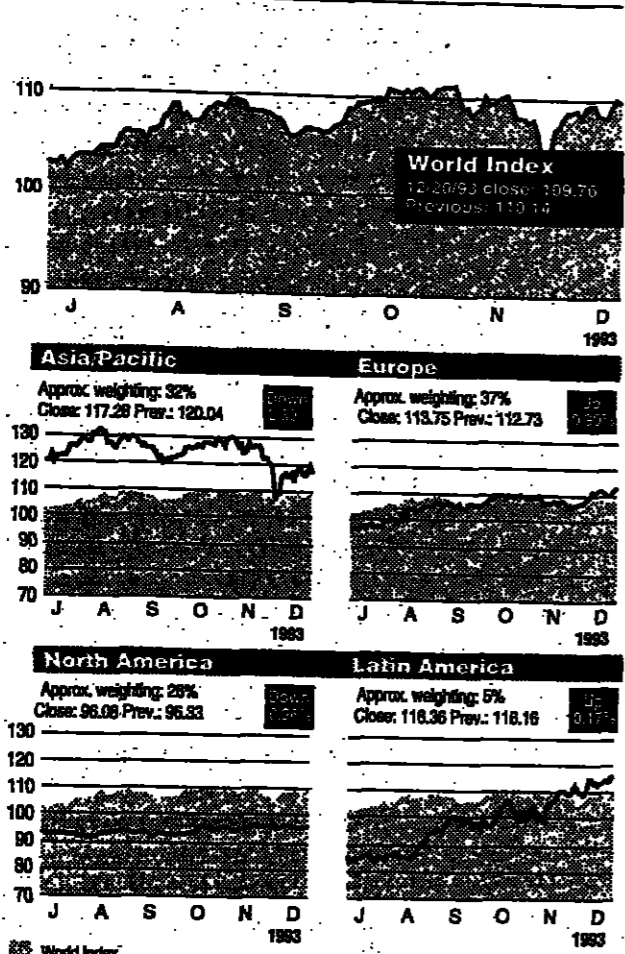


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THE TRIB INDEX: 109.76

International Herald Tribune World-Stock Index, composed of 280 internationally investible stocks from 25 countries, compiled by Bloomberg Business News, Jan. 1, 1992 = 100.



The index tracks U.S. dollar values of stocks in Tokyo, New York, London, and other major financial centers.

Table with 4 columns: Sector, Index Value, % Change, and Previous Value. Rows include Energy, Utilities, Finance, Services, Capital Goods, Raw Materials, Consumer Goods, and Miscellaneous.

For more information about the index, a booklet is available free of charge. Write to Trib Index, 121 Avenue Charles de Gaulle, 92221 Neuilly Cedex, France.

Baby Bell Joins GE in Information Venture

CHICAGO — American Information Technology Corp. and General Electric Co. said Monday that they had agreed to form a joint venture to create and market electronic information products.

U.S. Audio's New Sound Small Firms Reversing Industry's Decline

NEW YORK — Looking at the audio section of a consumer electronics shop or department store and seeing the array of Japanese nameplates — Sony, Panasonic, Yamaha — a person might conclude that American companies have withdrawn from the field.

ABB Executive Picked to Be Volvo Chairman

STOCKHOLM — Bert-Olof Svanholm, head of the Swedish unit of the engineering group ABB Asea Brown Boveri Ltd., was nominated Monday to be the new chairman of Volvo AB and appeared likely to be elected to the post.

Long Winter Ahead for Tokyo Stocks

TOKYO — Japanese stocks, battered for much of this autumn, are facing a rough outlook for 1994, analysts and brokers said, holding out little hope for a recovery next year.

Volatility was the rule on other Asian stock markets, as Hong Kong and Manila shares surged to record highs for the third session in a row, prices fell in Kuala Lumpur in what some said was an overdue correction, and the Shanghai A share index plummeted more than 15 percent after the government unveiled steps to curb speculators.

Viacom, QVC Bid for Paramount

NEW YORK — Paramount Communications Inc., which said it received two rival takeover bids before Monday's deadline, has scheduled a board meeting Tuesday to consider the offers.

INTERNATIONAL STOCKS

Moscow Again Is Casting A Long Shadow Westward

By Richard W. Stevenson
LONDON — Imagine trying to launch a Russian investment fund last week. That was the unenviable task facing Framlington Group, a London-based fund manager that had spent a year setting up a plan to attract Western capital and invest it in small and medium-sized Russian enterprises.

European Stocks Rise On Signs of Recovery

LONDON — European stock prices advanced Monday, with British, German and Swiss market indexes closing at record highs.

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Advertisement for Sprint FONCARD featuring a large graphic of a ticket and promotional text: 'Enroll for a Sprint FONCARD and you could win tickets to WorldCup USA '94! Soccer's premiere competition is coming to the U.S. And no one's more excited than Sprint! We're giving away tickets to some of WorldCup USA '94's hottest events.'

CURRENCY & INTEREST RATES

Table with multiple columns showing currency exchange rates for various countries (Australia, Canada, France, Germany, etc.) and interest rates for different terms (1-month, 3-month, 6-month, 1-year).

Key Money Rates

Table showing key money rates for various currencies and financial instruments, including US Treasury bills, Eurocurrency deposits, and other financial products.

Continuation of the Sprint WorldCup USA '94 advertisement, including contact information: 'CALL COLLECT TO THE U.S. AT 402-390-3643.' and details about the contest rules and prizes.

MARKET DIARY

Blue-Chip Issues Post a Small Gain

NEW YORK — Blue-chip stocks closed slightly higher in cautious trading Monday, as investors remained wary that the Federal Reserve might tilt toward higher interest rates at a meeting of its policy-making committee Tuesday.

The Dow Jones industrial average, which leaped 25.43 points on heavy volume Friday, rose a further 3.64 to end at 3,755.21. But declining issues outnumbered advances by an 11-to-9 ratio. Volume was moderate at about 249 million shares.

The price of the 30-year Treasury bond was down 7/32 at 99 13/32. The yield, which moves in the opposite direction from the price, rose to 6.29 percent from 6.28 percent.

Falling oil prices gave a temporary lift to the Treasury market, but as oil prices rebounded toward midday, the market came under renewed selling pressure.

In addition to anxiety over the course of interest rates in 1994, analysts said, the market was weighed down by year-end lethargy and selling for tax purposes.

Among components of the industrial average, gains in Chevron

and Goodyear Tire & Rubber helped to offset a loss in International Business Machines.

Chevron gained 1 1/4 to 86 1/2, and Goodyear rose 1/4 to 44. IBM lost 1 1/2 to 58 1/2 after it said that technical problems would force a delay in delivering updated versions of two top personal computer models.

In other actively traded issues, Merck rose 1/4 to 33 1/2. The company was said to be stepping up the development of its latest experimental drug against AIDS.

Gulf States Utilities was unchanged at 19 1/2 after the Securities and Exchange Commission's approval Friday of its merger plan with Entergy, which fell 1/2 to 35 1/2.

Borden rose 1/4 to 18 1/2. Reports said its directors were considering putting the food and chemicals company up for sale.

Big bank stocks posted some gains after Brown Brothers Harriman raised its 1994 earnings estimates on Wells Fargo and First Interstate. An analyst at Brown Brothers, Raphael Soifer, said the move was based in part on his view that the end of California's economic troubles would be "clearly in sight" by the fourth quarter of 1994 or the first quarter of 1995.

Analysts said the Swiss franc was boosted by the market's assessment that growth prospects were better at the moment in Switzerland than in Germany, as well as the franc's role as a haven for investors in a time of uncertainty about Russia.

Many traders had expected the dollar to retreat Monday after rising above 110 yen Friday. Exporters, who earn revenue in dollars, usually sell when the U.S. currency rallies, they said.

"Now it looks like the exporters are holding out for a stronger dollar," David Solin, manager of foreign exchange sales for Toronto Dominion Bank in New York, said.

Dollar Rises Further Against Yen and Mark

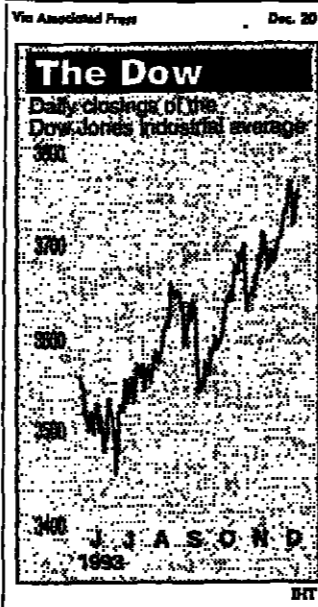
NEW YORK — The dollar strengthened against the Deutsche mark Monday and rose to a six-month high against the yen amid speculation that Japan's stubborn economic slump would prompt another cut in interest rates soon.

The yen is a currency to avoid until the end of the year, David Rosa, director of foreign-exchange trading at Swiss Bank Corp. in New York, said. He said Prime Minister Morihiro Hosokawa "looks powerless to stop the decline of the Japanese economy."

The dollar touched an intraday high of 110.80 yen, its highest level since June 23, and closed at 110.60 yen, up from 110.20 Friday. It also climbed to 1.7129 DM from 1.7094 DM. Trading was slow, with many dealers already gone for the year-end holidays.

Japanese stocks and the yen have been hurt by concern that Mr. Hosokawa's government won't be able to pass measures to spur Japan's economy before the country's parliament recesses in January.

Against other currencies, the dollar eased to 1.4580 Swiss francs from 1.4615 francs Friday and was unchanged at 5.3380 French francs. The pound advanced slightly, to \$1.4865 from \$1.4860.



The Dow Jones Industrial Average, 1988-1993

Table: Dow Jones Averages. Columns: Open, High, Low, Last, Chg. Rows: Industrials, Chemicals, Electronics, Energy, Finance, Health Care, Industrials, Technology, Utilities.

Table: Standard & Poor's Indexes. Columns: High, Low, Close, Chg. Rows: Industrials, Chemicals, Electronics, Energy, Finance, Health Care, Industrials, Technology, Utilities.

Table: NYSE Indexes. Columns: High, Low, Last, Chg. Rows: Composite, Industrials, Technology, Utilities.

Table: NASDAQ Indexes. Columns: High, Low, Last, Chg. Rows: Composite, Industrials, Technology, Utilities.

Table: AMEX Stock Index. Columns: High, Low, Last, Chg. Rows: Industrials, Chemicals, Electronics, Energy, Finance, Health Care, Industrials, Technology, Utilities.

Table: Dow Jones Bond Averages. Columns: Class, Chg. Rows: 30 Bonds, 10 Utilities, 10 Industrials.

Table: Market Sales. Columns: NYSE 4 a.m. volume, NYSE new cons. volume, AMEX 4 a.m. volume, AMEX new cons. volume, NASDAQ 4 a.m. volume, NASDAQ new cons. volume.

Table: NYSE Most Actives. Columns: Vol., High, Low, Last, Chg. Rows: Merck, IBM, Johnson & Johnson, etc.

Table: AMEX Most Actives. Columns: Vol., High, Low, Last, Chg. Rows: ENSCO, US Banc, etc.

Table: NYSE Diary. Columns: Class, Prev., Chg. Rows: Advanced, Declined, Unchanged, Total Issues.

Table: AMEX Diary. Columns: Class, Prev., Chg. Rows: Advanced, Declined, Unchanged, Total Issues.

Table: NASDAQ Diary. Columns: Class, Prev., Chg. Rows: Advanced, Declined, Unchanged, Total Issues.

Table: EUROPEAN FUTURES. Columns: Class, High, Low, Prev., Close. Rows: COCOA (LCO), COPPER (LCO), WHITE SUGAR (SOFT), etc.

Table: Metals. Columns: Class, High, Low, Prev., Close. Rows: ALUMINUM (3 MONTH), COPPER (3 MONTH), GOLD (COM), etc.

Table: Financial. Columns: Class, High, Low, Prev., Close. Rows: 3 MONTH STERLING (LIFFE), 6 MONTH STERLING (LIFFE), etc.

Table: Dividends. Columns: Company, Dividend, Yield. Rows: Alkerm, Amgen, Biogen, etc.

Table: Stock Indexes. Columns: Class, High, Low, Prev., Close. Rows: FTSE 100 (LIFFE), DAX (EUREX), etc.

Table: Spot Commodities. Columns: Commodity, Today, Prev., Chg. Rows: Aluminum, Coffee, Cocoa, etc.

Table: Dividends (continued). Columns: Company, Dividend, Yield. Rows: Amgen, Biogen, etc.

Table: Stock Indexes (continued). Columns: Class, High, Low, Prev., Close. Rows: Nikkei 225 (TOCOM), Hang Seng (HSI), etc.

Table: Dividends (continued). Columns: Company, Dividend, Yield. Rows: Amgen, Biogen, etc.

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Table: Stock Indexes (continued). Columns: Class, High, Low, Prev., Close. Rows: Nikkei 225 (TOCOM), Hang Seng (HSI), etc.

IBM Delays Unveiling of 2 PC Models

Monday that it could not estimate when the models would be ready. "We are in the process of informing customers that our PS/2 and 77 models will be severely constrained in January and February due to technical problems," a company spokesman said.

IBM shares fell \$1.25 to \$58.50 in late trading on the New York Stock Exchange following the announcement.

U.S. FUTURES

Table: U.S. FUTURES - Grains. Columns: Month, Open, High, Low, Last, Chg. Rows: WHEAT (CBOT), CORN (CBOT), SOYBEANS (CBOT), etc.

Table: U.S. FUTURES - Metals. Columns: Month, Open, High, Low, Last, Chg. Rows: COPPER (COMEX), GOLD (COM), SILVER (COM), etc.

Table: U.S. FUTURES - Livestock. Columns: Month, Open, High, Low, Last, Chg. Rows: CATTLE (CME), PIGS (CME), etc.

Table: U.S. FUTURES - Financial. Columns: Month, Open, High, Low, Last, Chg. Rows: 3 MONTH T-BILL (CBOT), 6 MONTH T-BILL (CBOT), etc.

Table: U.S. FUTURES - Food. Columns: Month, Open, High, Low, Last, Chg. Rows: COFFEE (ICE), SUGAR (ICE), etc.

Table: U.S. FUTURES - Stock Indexes. Columns: Month, Open, High, Low, Last, Chg. Rows: S&P 500 (CME), NYSE (CME), etc.

Table: U.S. FUTURES - Commodity Indexes. Columns: Month, Open, High, Low, Last, Chg. Rows: COMMODITY INDEX (CME), etc.

Table: U.S. FUTURES - Commodity Indexes (continued). Columns: Month, Open, High, Low, Last, Chg. Rows: COMMODITY INDEX (CME), etc.

Table: U.S. FUTURES - Commodity Indexes (continued). Columns: Month, Open, High, Low, Last, Chg. Rows: COMMODITY INDEX (CME), etc.

Friday Holdings Acquires Nynex Unit

NEW YORK (Knight-Ridder) — Friday Holdings L.P. said Monday it had acquired BIS Strategic Decisions from Nynex World Services Group. Financial terms were not disclosed.

BIS, based in Norwell, Massachusetts, provides information services and consulting to global electronics and information-technology companies. It has about 300 employees in seven countries. Friday Holdings was formed in May to invest in, acquire and create media and information companies. Its president, Norman Pearlstine, was formerly executive editor of The Wall Street Journal.

Merck to Speed Work on AIDS Drug

NEW YORK (Reuters) — Merck & Co. said Monday it would accelerate the development of an experimental AIDS drug that has shown promise in preliminary clinical trials.

Merck is "focusing resources on this compound and will develop it as quickly as possible so long as it continues to prove safe and show promise of effectiveness," said a company spokesman, John Doodley. But he cautioned that it would be months before Merck would know whether the drug, called L-735,524, could be developed into a prescription medication.

Car Output: Will U.S. Pull Ahead?

DETROIT (Bloomberg) — U.S. automotive plants may build more vehicles than Japanese plants next year for the first time since 1980, partly because Japanese manufacturers have been shifting production to the United States to minimize currency-exchange effects, the trade pact of U.S. plants could rise to 11.2 million in 1994, up 4.6 percent from 1993, Automotive News said in its Dec. 20 issue, while Japanese production could decline to 11 million from 11.1 million this year.

For the Record

Metallgesellschaft Corp.'s new president and chief executive officer is Karl von der Heyden, formerly chief executive and chief financial officer of RRR Nabisco Corp. Joseph Rinaldi has resumed his post as executive vice president.

American Airlines and Delta Air Lines Inc. are the two leading contestants for a partnership deal with Poland's state airline LOT, the airline's president, Jan Litwinski, told the news agency PAP.

Weekend Box Office

Table: Weekend Box Office. Columns: Rank, Title, Gross, Weeks. Rows: 1. "The Pelican Brief", 2. "Mrs. Doubtfire", etc.

WORLD STOCK MARKETS

Table: WORLD STOCK MARKETS. Columns: Market, Index, High, Low, Last, Chg. Rows: Amsterdam, Brussels, Frankfurt, London, Milan, Paris, Singapore, Stockholm, Zurich, etc.

IBM Delays Unveiling of 2 PC Models

Monday that it could not estimate when the models would be ready. "We are in the process of informing customers that our PS/2 and 77 models will be severely constrained in January and February due to technical problems," a company spokesman said.

IBM shares fell \$1.25 to \$58.50 in late trading on the New York Stock Exchange following the announcement.

U.S. FUTURES

Table: U.S. FUTURES - Grains. Columns: Month, Open, High, Low, Last, Chg. Rows: WHEAT (CBOT), CORN (CBOT), SOYBEANS (CBOT), etc.

Table: U.S. FUTURES - Metals. Columns: Month, Open, High, Low, Last, Chg. Rows: COPPER (COMEX), GOLD (COM), SILVER (COM), etc.

Table: U.S. FUTURES - Livestock. Columns: Month, Open, High, Low, Last, Chg. Rows: CATTLE (CME), PIGS (CME), etc.

Table: U.S. FUTURES - Financial. Columns: Month, Open, High, Low, Last, Chg. Rows: 3 MONTH T-BILL (CBOT), 6 MONTH T-BILL (CBOT), etc.

Table: U.S. FUTURES - Food. Columns: Month, Open, High, Low, Last, Chg. Rows: COFFEE (ICE), SUGAR (ICE), etc.

Table: U.S. FUTURES - Stock Indexes. Columns: Month, Open, High, Low, Last, Chg. Rows: S&P 500 (CME), NYSE (CME), etc.

Table: U.S. FUTURES - Commodity Indexes. Columns: Month, Open, High, Low, Last, Chg. Rows: COMMODITY INDEX (CME), etc.

Table: U.S. FUTURES - Commodity Indexes (continued). Columns: Month, Open, High, Low, Last, Chg. Rows: COMMODITY INDEX (CME), etc.

Table: U.S. FUTURES - Commodity Indexes (continued). Columns: Month, Open, High, Low, Last, Chg. Rows: COMMODITY INDEX (CME), etc.

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Table: Weekend Box Office (continued). Columns: Rank, Title, Gross, Weeks. Rows: 7. "The Pelican Brief", 8. "Mrs. Doubtfire", etc.

Table: Weekend Box Office (continued). Columns: Rank, Title, Gross, Weeks. Rows: 9. "The Pelican Brief", 10. "Mrs. Doubtfire", etc.

Table: Weekend Box Office (continued). Columns: Rank, Title, Gross, Weeks. Rows: 11. "The Pelican Brief", 12. "Mrs. Doubtfire", etc.

EUROPE

Daimler Says Dividend Is Safe Shares Surge on Payout News and Recapitalization Plan

Berlin — Shares of Daimler-Benz AG surged Monday after the company said its dividend would be at least as high as last year's and its shareholders approved a restructuring that would make it easier to raise money.

company, which plans to cut 51,000 jobs by the end of 1994. Speaking of the recovery plan, Mr. Reuter told the shareholders, "The question must be asked whether it is in your interest that the costs should be entirely borne by employees."

The merger will effectively dissolve Mercedes Holding by exchanging each of its shares for one Daimler share. Mr. Reuter said the merger was expected to take effect in early 1994.

For Diamond Market, Glitter Is Back in '93

LONDON — De Beers Consolidated Mines Ltd. reported on Monday record sales of \$4.37 billion in rough diamonds for this year, as the industry bounced back from doldrums that dragged sales to a six-year low in 1992.

Sales were up 27.8 percent from \$3.42 billion a year earlier on trade restocking, particularly in the United States, the diamond cartel's London-based Central Selling Organization said.

Unilever Buys French Food Firm

AMSTERDAM — Unilever Group, Europe's largest ice-cream maker, on Monday moved to become the biggest in France by acquiring a controlling stake in Ortiz-Miko, the French market leader.

Investor's Europe

Table with columns: Exchange, Index, Monday Close, Prev. Close, % Change. Rows include Frankfurt DAX, London FTSE 100 Index, Paris CAC 40, Amsterdam CBS Trend, Brussels Stock Index, Frankfurt DAX, Frankfurt FAZ, Helsinki HEX, London Financial Times 30, London FTSE 100, Madrid General Index, Milan MIB, Paris CAC 40, Stockholm Aftersvaerden, Vienna Stock Index, Zurich SBB.

BCCI Holders In Abu Dhabi Seek \$9 Billion

ABU DHABI — The Abu Dhabi shareholders in the failed Bank of Credit & Commerce International filed a \$9 billion civil claim on Monday against 13 former BCCI executives already being tried in the emirate on criminal charges.

Last-Ditch Bid for Aerolineas Argentinas Bailout

MADRID — Iberia Lineas Aereas de España SA is holding talks with the Argentine government in Buenos Aires that the airline considers the last chance to save its Aerolineas Argentinas affiliate, an Iberia spokesman said Monday.

Tuesday with President Carlos Saúl Menem of Argentina. Iberia owns 30 percent and has management control over Aerolineas Argentinas. It bought into the airline in 1991 as part of its Latin American expansion strategy.

percent stake in Aerolineas Argentinas, has asserted that it is now a privatized company and that the government has no further responsibility for it.

The Iberia spokesman said Monday that the Spanish airline had nothing further to add to its proposals. "We have nothing left to say on this matter, other than the proposal we have already made," he said.

EC Targets Asian Microwave Ovens

BRUSSELS — The European Commission has started an anti-dumping investigation of imports of microwave ovens from China, Hong Kong, Taiwan, South Korea, Thailand and Malaysia, the commission said Monday.

Group of Household Appliance Manufacturers said local manufacturers had been forced to lower prices, leading to a drop in profits and investments.

Commission is looking into whether a satellite television venture, Nickelodeon UK, between British Sky Broadcasting Ltd. and MTV Networks conforms with competition rules.

MUNICH — Siemens AG said Monday that it planned to make a "large investment" in microelectronics in Dresden.

EDUCATION DIRECTORY

RUSSIA: Shadow Over Europe

Continued from Page 9 performance last week in Paris, London and other European markets as well.

broadly throughout the European markets. If the decline in military spending in the West must be reversed, for example, many of the economic and budgetary assumptions underpinning investment decisions would have to be thrown out.

Investors within Russia were clearly nervous about the prospects for continued progress toward a free-market system. There was a drop of nearly 20 percent in the price of Russia's only widely traded security, the vouchers used to purchase shares in businesses that are being privatized.

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NASDAQ

Monday's Prices
NASDAQ prices as of 4 p.m. New York time. This list compiled by the AP, consists of the 1,000 most traded securities in terms of dollar volume. It is updated twice a year.

12 Month High	Low	Stock	Div	Yld	PE	52 High	52 Low	Latest	Chg
11.50	10.00	AA				11.50	10.00	10.50	0.50
11.50	10.00	AA				11.50	10.00	10.50	0.50
11.50	10.00	AA				11.50	10.00	10.50	0.50
11.50	10.00	AA				11.50	10.00	10.50	0.50
11.50	10.00	AA				11.50	10.00	10.50	0.50
11.50	10.00	AA				11.50	10.00	10.50	0.50
11.50	10.00	AA				11.50	10.00	10.50	0.50
11.50	10.00	AA				11.50	10.00	10.50	0.50
11.50	10.00	AA				11.50	10.00	10.50	0.50
11.50	10.00	AA				11.50	10.00	10.50	0.50

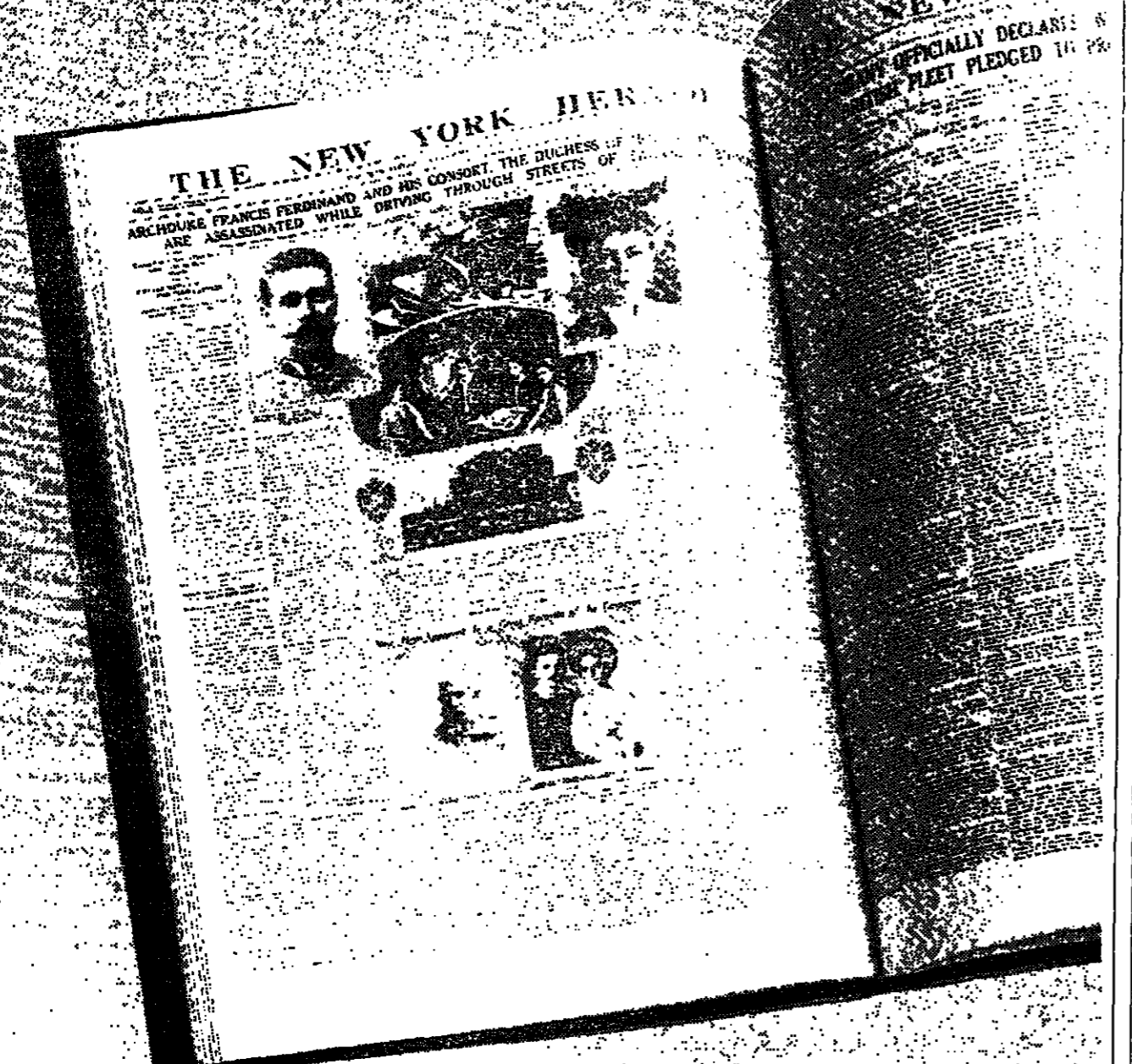
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11.50	10.00	AA				11.50	10.00	10.50	0.50
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11.50	10.00	AA				11.50	10.00	10.50	0.50
11.50	10.00	AA				11.50	10.00	10.50	0.50
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11.50	10.00	AA				11.50	10.00	10.50	0.50
11.50	10.00	AA				11.50	10.00	10.50	0.50
11.50	10.00	AA				11.50	10.00	10.50	0.50
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Ireland	Sh. 230	125
Italy	Lira 500,000	275,000
Luxembourg	L.Fr. 14,000	7,700
Netherlands	Fl. 770	430
Norway	N.Kr. 3,500	1,900
Portugal	Esc. 47,000	26,000
Spain	Pes. 48,000	26,500
— hard deliv. West/Eur.	Pes. 25,000	12,500
Sweden (former)	S.Kr. 3,100	1,700
— hard deliv.	S.Kr. 3,500	1,900
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Ramos Asks Panel To Explain Oil Sale

MANILA — President Fidel V. Ramos said Monday that he had asked a cabinet committee why it had refused to consider a bid by a Malaysian consortium for 40 percent of the state-owned oil refinery, Petron.

The cabinet's Committee on Privatization on Thursday approved Saudi Arabian Oil Co.'s bid of \$502 million for 40 percent of Petron, the refining and marketing arm of Philippine National Oil Co., which is the largest sale in the government's campaign to convert state companies to private operation.

In a letter released Monday, Westmont Holdings, a Malaysian company, urged the government to consider its bid, which was submitted before the Wednesday deadline but was never opened. "For reasons we cannot understand," Mr. Estrella said, "Westmont's Philippine representative."

"Had it been opened, the bid submitted by the consortium would have been substantially higher and there would have been given the government greater revenues from the sale of its equity," Mr. Estrella said. He did not say how much his company had bid.

Energy Secretary Delfin Lázaro, chairman of the Philippine oil company, said Westmont's bid was not

opened because the company had failed to show technical competence. He did not elaborate.

A government source said that the bidding committee had questions about Westmont's technical capabilities, including its access to long-term crude oil supplies, product and production technology, and management expertise.

Mr. Ramos said he had asked the privatization panel to explain why the bid was not considered and to report on other allegations of irregularities in the bidding.

He said he had asked the committee chairman, Finance Secretary Ernest Leung, "to come up with a clarification of this."

Another Malaysian state-owned oil company, Petronas, offered \$421 million, which was below the \$440 million minimum set by the government.

The government plans to retain a 40 percent share in Petron, which controls 48 percent of the Philippine market, and offer the other 20 percent to investors.

Several congressmen have charged that there were irregularities in the bidding in favor of Saudi Arabian Oil, which is known as Aramco, after its predecessor, Arabiamco, and its oil company.

Others oppose the sale because the government would lose control over fuel prices.

U.S. Ducks a Chip Clash Call to Get Tough With Japan Is Deflected

WASHINGTON — The White House and the Pentagon have quashed a call by the Commerce Department to use national security as a basis for helping American makers of semiconductor components compete with Japanese rivals.

The Commerce Department had urged President Bill Clinton to endorse a petition filed by two American companies asserting that Japan's dominance of the world market for advanced ceramic packaging for semiconductors was a potential threat to the security of the United States.

Officials at the department argued that every major high-technology weapons system in the U.S. arsenal relies on the ceramic semiconductor components, and that Japanese companies now supply nearly 90 percent of such components used by the Pentagon. Officials in Mr. Clinton's administration have acknowledged that the Pentagon is more dependent on Japan for the ceramic components than for any other critical materials in weapons systems.

But the Commerce Department's tough recommendations were quietly shelved. Instead, a working group run by the White House's National Economic Council has begun to study the American semiconductor industry, and angry department officials say they fear the study will simply bury the issue.

The case began in 1992 when an electronics subsidiary of Adolph Coors Co. and Ceramics Process Systems Corp., a maker of advanced ceramic products, filed a trade petition arguing that the Pentagon and American companies were too dependent on a Japanese company, Kyocera Corp., for high-tech ceramic semiconductor packages.

Industry and government officials say that Kyocera controls about 70 percent of the world market for the components. Although Kyocera has a plant in San Diego and argues that it should be treated as an American company, Commerce Department officials say virtually all its ceramic packaging for semiconductors comes directly from Japan.

Foreign Market Share Falls in Japan

The American and European shares of the computer-chip market in Japan are continuing to fall, making it likely that the United States will seek special trade talks with Japan early next year. The New York Times reported, quoting U.S. officials.

Preliminary estimates suggest that non-Japanese makers, most of them American, had 18 to 19 percent of the Japanese chip market in the third quarter, the lowest level in a year, a senior U.S. trade official said.

As a result, the United States is likely to invoke an "emergency consultations" provision of the 1991 semiconductor accord with Japan, the official, who asked not to be identified, said late last week.

The 1991 arrangement set a goal of a 20 percent market share for foreign chip makers in Japan by the end of 1992. That share did not reach 20.2 percent in the fourth quarter of 1992, but it has been falling ever since, to 19.6 percent in the first quarter of this year and 19.2 percent in the second period.

Separately, Bloomberg Business News reported Monday that U.S. Trade Representative Mickey Kantor, in an open letter printed in the Nihon Keizai newspaper, had accused the Japanese government of interfering with import flows. The deputy trade representative, Charles Barshefsky, charged last week that Japan's chip imports had fallen below the 20 percent target.

Zhu Vows To Control Grain Price

BEIJING — China's economics boss, Zhu Rongji, swept back into the public eye on Monday, saying inflation was still a problem but promising that Beijing would not allow the price of grain to run wild.

Mr. Zhu, deputy prime minister and head of the central bank, has not been prominent in China's tightly controlled propaganda output for several weeks, leading to whispers that his political star may have declined.

But in remarks that took up nearly half of the evening news broadcast on state radio and were prominent on state television, Mr. Zhu spoke like a man determined to see economic reforms succeed.

"Stabilizing the grain price and inflation" he said, "are key to a smooth implementation of next year's reforms." He spoke on state radio after reports of sharp rises in the price of rice and some panic buying of household electrical appliances.

"There has not been a basic change in the fact that fixed-asset investment has remained high and money-supply growth has remained high. The pressure of inflation still exists," he said.

Mr. Zhu tried to slow down China's overheating economy in July by clamping down on credit and speculation.

Already there are signs that overheating has returned. The November inflation rate in 35 major cities was an annual 21.9 percent.

He assured the 1.2 billion people that the country was having another bumper grain harvest and state stockpiles were at record levels.

Exchange	Index	Monday Close	Prev. Close	% Change
Hong Kong	Hang Seng	10,814.70	10,568.90	+2.33
Singapore	Straits Times	2,277.48	2,280.26	-0.12
Sydney	All Ordinaries	2,076.00	2,080.20	-0.20
Tokyo	Nikkei 225	17,404.24	18,051.91	-3.59
Kuala Lumpur	Composite	1,098.08	1,109.53	-1.03
Bangkok	SET	1,496.71	1,513.83	-1.13
Seoul	Composite Stock	848.63	864.00	-1.78
Taipei	Weighted Price	5,204.02	5,202.14	+0.04
Manila	Composite	2,808.80	2,862.43	-1.95
Jakarta	Stock Index	N/A	N/A	N/A
New Zealand	NZSE-40	2,073.24	2,080.50	-0.35
Bombay	National Index	Closed	Closed	Closed

- Very briefly:**
- Shanghai Volkswagen, a Chinese-German joint venture, emerged as China's leading carmaker in 1993, accounting for one-third of national output, China Daily said.
 - China submitted a draft law to its national legislature that would guarantee legal protection for investment from Taiwan, Xinhua news agency reported from Beijing.
 - Sunitomo Corp. and Indonesia Petroleum Ltd. of Japan said they would jointly develop oil resources in northwestern China's Tarim Basin with Exxon Corp. of the United States. Exploration work will start in early 1994, with the goal of oil production by 2002, they said.
 - Nissso Iwai Corp. said it had won exploration and development rights for an offshore block in Vietnam's Blue Dragon oil field in a consortium with Mobil Corp. and two Japanese partners.
 - Japan's direct investment overseas in calendar 1992 plunged 43.9 percent from the preceding year to \$17.2 billion.
 - Japan's crude steel production will fall for the second consecutive year in the current fiscal year. Output will tumble 2.9 percent, to 96.6 million metric tons, the Ministry for International Trade and Industry said.
 - India cleared foreign investment proposals worth more than \$2 billion during the first 10 months of the year, nearly double the total for 1992, the Finance Ministry said.

Toyota, Nissan See Output and Sales Decline

TOKYO — Japan's top motor companies, Toyota Motor Corp. and Nissan Motor Co., said Monday that their domestic outputs and sales and their exports in November remained below the 1992 levels due to sluggish demand amid the global recession.

Toyota's domestic output dropped 13.1 percent from 1992 to 301,850 units, due to "sluggish domestic sales and a decrease in exports," a Toyota statement said.

It added that Toyota's domestic sales were also down 4 percent, at 180,721 units, amid the "prolonged recession," while exports plunged 21.7 percent to 108,562.

Nissan's production at home fell 11.8 percent to 153,300, while its domestic sales dropped 15.6 percent to 83,915. Its exports dipped 39 percent to 51,066, a Nissan statement said, and its overseas production slumped 3.9 percent to 82,456.

Meanwhile, Japan's household spending in October was up 0.4 percent from 1992, the Management and Coordination Agency said Monday.

U.S. and Australia End Airline Quarrel

CANBERRA — The United States and Australia have reached an agreement on Pacific airline routes that ends a bitter dispute over flying passengers who board the planes in Japan to Australia, Transport and Communications Minister Bob Collins announced Monday.

Under the three-year agreement, two carriers from each nation will be able to fly three times a week on the Australia-Japan-United States route. U.S. carriers had had the right to fly the first eight weekly services.

In the agreement, effective Jan. 31, Australia also secured Mexico as a new point on the South Pacific route, an additional point in Asia on the North Pacific route, and additional points in America on the same route.

Early this year, Australia put restrictions on Northwest Airlines after accusing it of violating Australian conditions for the route because more than half its passengers arriving in Australia had embarked in Japan. The Japan-Australia leg is a highly lucrative route.

Northwest had denied it had breached the conditions and took action through the Federal

Aviation Agency, the U.S. airline regulatory body, to try to block the Australian carrier Qantas from landing at Los Angeles.

U.S. and Australian authorities then began negotiations that resulted in the new agreement.

Mr. Collins announced the agreement Monday, saying it represented a favorable outcome for trade, tourism and aviation in Australia.

The agreement provides for United and Northwest to drop outstanding legal action against the Australian government over the dispute, a spokesman for Mr. Collins said.

STOCK: Outlook Is Bleak for Battered Tokyo Market OECD: Global Recovery, Forecasters Say, Is Still Just Around the Corner

Continued from Page 9

domic conditions," an analyst for a large brokerage concern said.

"This means share prices have only limited momentum to rise."

Kenzo Doi, an analyst at Kohsei Securities, said that the Nikkei average's decline below 16,000 in late November was due to "growing fears that Japan's economy would remain weak in the medium to long term." He added, "Investors cannot pour their money into the stock market until such fears have subsided."

Expectations that the Bank of Japan would cut its official discount rate, or rate on loans to commercial banks, to 1.0 percent early in 1994 from what is already a historic low

of 1.75 percent have already been factored in, brokers said.

They also pointed out that seven previous cuts in the rate since July 1991, when it stood at 6.0 percent, had not succeeded in reviving the economy.

On other Asian stock markets Monday, the Hang Seng index in Hong Kong rose 245.90 points, or 2.3 percent, closing at 10,814.70. It had risen 229.20 points Friday.

Brokers said the buying spree continued after early profit-taking, with investors expecting the index to reach 11,000 points before Christmas.

Brokers said investors appeared no longer concerned about the dispute between Britain and China over political arrangements in

Hong Kong, which reverts to Chinese rule in 1997.

In Manila, the composite index of 31 stocks posted a record 5.5 percent gain, rising 146.37 points to 2,808.80 after climbing 47 Friday.

But Malaysian shares closed lower in heavy trading amid a bout of late profit-taking. The composite index fell 11.45 points to 1,098.08.

On the Shanghai exchange, officials managed to prevent even bigger losses by calling on institutions to support major issues, and shares closed above their low for the day. But the index of Class A shares still was off 145.27 points, or 15.6 percent, at 804.26.

(Reuters, Bloomberg, UPI, AP)

Continued from Page 1

Expressing his personal view, he discounted work-sharing as a possible solution. "This is not the best approach," he said. Any such decision "must be left" to collective agreements between companies and their workers rather than be imposed.

The ongoing correction from the excessive corporate and household levels of debt built up during the previous expansion is the main depressant of activity, the report states. Even in the United States, where the process of adjustment has probably proceeded farthest, "it is probably not complete."

Overall, "important symptoms of financial stress remain, in the form of debt ratios of the nonfinancial sector that are still historically high and weak commercial property markets." In Japan, such pressures "appear to be severe."

The outlook for Japan has been sharply revised downward from the forecast published only three weeks ago. Growth next year is now

seen at 0.5 percent, down from the earlier estimate of 1.4 percent. With the yen's appreciation exerting "a significant drag on growth," the report says, the "current deflationary spiral via falling investment and a deteriorating labor market may be difficult to break."

China's austerity efforts, aimed at reducing growth and inflation to around 10 percent, could result in a sharper deceleration of growth.

The report sees growth in Hong Kong slowing modestly to 5 and then 4.5 percent from this year's 5.5 percent.

Singapore's growth is forecast to moderate to 7 and then 6.5 percent after this year's 7.5 percent, due to a slowdown in the export boom in electronics.

Taiwan will be expanding at 6 and then 6.5 percent, bolstered by a government program to increase the supply of land for industrial use and the introduction of tax breaks for investment projects.

AMEX
Monday's Closing

Tables include the nationwide prices up to the closing on Wall Street and do not reflect late trades elsewhere. Via The Associated Press

12 Month High	Low	Stock	Div	Yld	PE	1866	High	Low	Label	Chrg
45.12	45.00	AA					45.12	45.00		
100.00	100.00	AAA					100.00	100.00		

12 Month High	Low	Stock	Div	Yld	PE	1866	High	Low	Label	Chrg
100.00	100.00	AAA					100.00	100.00		

12 Month High	Low	Stock	Div	Yld	PE	1866	High	Low	Label	Chrg
100.00	100.00	AAA					100.00	100.00		

12 Month High	Low	Stock	Div	Yld	PE	1866	High	Low	Label	Chrg
100.00	100.00	AAA					100.00	100.00		

12 Month High	Low	Stock	Div	Yld	PE	1866	High	Low	Label	Chrg
100.00	100.00	AAA					100.00	100.00		

12 Month High	Low	Stock	Div	Yld	PE	1866	High	Low	Label	Chrg
100.00	100.00	AAA					100.00	100.00		

NYSE

Monday's Closing Tables include the nationwide prices up to the closing on Wall Street and do not reflect late trades elsewhere. Via The Associated Press

(Continued)

Table with multiple columns showing stock prices, including columns for 12 Month High/Low, Div, Yld, PE, and various stock symbols.

ADVERTISEMENT

INTERNATIONAL FUNDS

Dec. 20, 1993

Quotations supplied by funds listed. Not asset value quotations are supplied by the Funds listed with the exception of some quotes based on issue prices.

The marginal symbols indicate frequency of quotations supplied: (d) - daily; (w) - weekly; (b) - bi-monthly; (f) - fortnightly (every two weeks); (v) - regularly (at least weekly); (m) - monthly.

Main table of international funds with columns for fund name, currency, and various performance metrics. Includes sections for International Income Fund, International Equity Fund, International Bond Fund, etc.

Other Funds

Table listing various other funds and their details.

For information on how to list your fund, fax Simon OSBORN at (33-1) 46 37 21 33.

Handwritten text at the bottom of the page: 1950 من الاصل

SPORTS

49ers: 10th Division Title

The Associated Press
This time, the San Francisco 49ers took no prisoners, and they definitely took no chances.
Having blown a big lead the week before, and with it a chance to clinch the NFC West title, the 49ers scored on every possession in the first half Sunday and swamped the host Detroit Lions, 35-17, to win their 10th division title in 12 years.

Montana called a 40-second timeout after Junior Seau flattened him. Looking wobbly, he put the Chiefs ahead, 21-17, with his pass to Birden and then left the game.

NFL ROUNDUP

score as the Raiders kept their playoff hopes intact.
Cardinals 30, Seahawks 27: Greg Davis kicked a team-record, 55-yard field goal as regulation time expired in Seattle, then kicked a 41-yarder 5:45 into overtime for Phoenix.

In earlier games, reported in some Monday editions:
Bills 47, Dolphins 34: In Miami, Buffalo won the highest-scoring NFL game this season as Mickey Washington returned an interception 27 yards for a touchdown and a 25-yard fumble return.

The Bills led by 47-20 after scoring three touchdowns in the first six minutes of the second half. Miami, which had the league's best record three weeks ago, has lost three in a row, all at home.

Oilers 26, Steelers 17: Houston won its second AFC Central crown in three years as Warren Moon hit running back Gary Brown with a 38-yard scoring pass and safety Bo Orlando returned an interception 35 yards for a touchdown in the first 5:23 of the game in Pittsburgh. But the Oilers' last leading receiver Webster Slaughter for the rest of the season with torn knee ligaments.

Vikings 21, Packers 17: Minnesota's Jim McMahon threw three touchdowns passes in Milwaukee to win his 10th consecutive start against Green Bay. The Packers missed a chance to clinch their first playoff spot in a nonstrike season since 1972, while the Vikings retained a chance to repeat as NFC Central champs.

Patriots 20, Browns 17: Leonard Russell ran four yards for a touchdown two minutes left to give New England its victory and eliminate host Cleveland from the playoffs.

Redskins 30, Falcons 17: Washington took advantage of six turnovers by Bob-By Herbert, beat Atlanta for the 10th straight time at RFK Stadium and knocked the Falcons out of the playoffs.



Mel Gray was hauled down by Sanjay Beach as the Lions got nowhere against the awesome 49ers.

Slovene Skier Gets First Cup Victory

MADONNA DI CAMPAGLIO, Italy — Jure Kosir edged the favored Alberto Tomba by nine-hundredths of a second in the slalom Monday to get his first World Cup victory, and the first ever by a Slovene skier in the yearly competition.

Kosir, 21, skied the fastest first run in 45.71 seconds and added 48.98 seconds in the second run down the steep Miramonti course for a winning aggregate of 1 minute, 34.69 seconds.

Tomba finished second in his second consecutive race, and missed getting his third victory of the season, in 1:34.78 minutes.

The Olympic slalom champion, Christian Jagge of Finland, took third place, 0.24 seconds behind the winner.

Kosir's previous best had been a second place in Lech, Austria, about a year ago.

"I feel great," he said. "I can't imagine a sweeter win. I beat Tomba, the best world slalom skier."

Kosir became the first Slovene to win a World Cup race since his country was declared independent, although other Slovene skiers had won World Cup races competing under the colors of Yugoslavia.

Despite defeat in front of a partisan crowd of about 10,000 in this Italian Dolomite resort, Tomba vaulted atop the World Cup standings, with 454 points.

Kjeil Andre Aamodt of Norway and Gnanther Mader of Austria lost one place each overall, falling to second and third respectively with 447 and 423 points. Mader finished ninth and Aamodt 10th in the slalom Monday.

The next World Cup race, a super giant slalom, is scheduled at Lech on Wednesday.

The women's World Cup slalom scheduled for Wednesday in Garmisch-Partenkirchen, Germany, was called off because of rain. FIS said it was negotiating with Maribor, Slovenia, to stage the race in addition to a slalom and a giant slalom scheduled for Jan. 22 and 23.

SIDELINES

Jury Postpones Whitbread Ruling

SOUTHAMPTON, England (Reuters) — Requests by three yachts in the Whitbread Round the World Race to reconsider the compensation awarded to Winston after she recovered a distress call will be dealt with later in the event, the International Jury said Monday.

It recommended delaying any response to the requests until a future stopover in the race — which resumes Jan. 9 with the third leg from Fremantle, Australia, to Auckland — because two members of the jury have left Australia and, under International Yacht Racing rules, the hearing must be conducted with the original protest committee.

NBA Suspends Rodman and King

NEW YORK (AP) — Dennis Rodman of the San Antonio Spurs, the NBA's rebounding leader, and the Chicago Bulls' Stacey King were both suspended for a game and fined Monday for a fight Saturday night night.

Clyde Drexler, Portland's star guard, severely sprained his left ankle during the Trail Blazers' game with the Milwaukee Bucks and was taken to a hospital for X-rays.

For the Record

England's exhibition soccer match against Germany on April 20 in Hamburg may be called off, officials said Monday, because it coincides with the anniversary of Adolf Hitler's birthday and could create a security problem.

Wolfgang Hoppe, the 1984 Olympic bobsled champion, has been dismissed from the German military because he had kept silent about his contacts with secret police in East Germany, the bobsled federation said Monday. That was not expected affect his hopes of competing in February's Games in Lillehammer, Norway.

Mike Tyson, the former heavyweight champion, was granted a hearing Monday by the Indiana Court of Appeals on a legal point in his conviction for rape. The hearing, which was not immediately scheduled, will allow Tyson to argue his claim that prosecutors knew the woman who accused him of rape also was considering suing him.

Jesse Barfield has signed a contract with the Houston Astros next season, despite a verbal agreement to play for the Yakult Swallows, an official of the 1993 Japan champion said Monday.

Steffi Graf has said she will not play in next year's Hamburg women's tennis tournament, where her rival, Monica Seles, was stabbed in April, the German federation said.

Charles Smitke, 57, the four-time winner of the English Derby, died Monday in Leatherhead, England.

Quotable
Charles Barkley: "Being Charles Barkley all the time is a grind."

SCOREBOARD

BASKETBALL

NBA Standings

Table with columns for Eastern Conference, Atlantic Division, and Central Division. Lists teams like New York, Orlando, Boston, Miami, Atlanta, Philadelphia, and Washington with their records.

Table with columns for Western Conference, Midwest Division, and Pacific Division. Lists teams like Houston, Phoenix, Portland, Golden State, LA Clippers, LA Lakers, and Sacramento.

SUNDAY'S RESULTS

Table listing NBA game results for Sunday, including LA Lakers vs Cleveland, Chicago Bulls vs Detroit, and others.

The AP Top 25

Table listing the top 25 college basketball teams, including Chicago, Wisconsin, Pacific, and others.

HOCKEY

NHL Standings

Table with columns for Eastern Conference and Western Conference. Lists NHL teams like NY Rangers, New Jersey, Philadelphia, and others.

SUNDAY'S RESULTS

Table listing NHL game results for Sunday, including LA Kings vs Boston, Toronto vs Detroit, and others.

Table with columns for American Conference and National Conference. Lists NFL teams like Buffalo, Miami, NY Jets, and others.

SUNDAY'S RESULTS

Table listing NFL game results for Sunday, including Buffalo vs Miami, NY Jets vs Philadelphia, and others.

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SUNDAY'S RESULTS

Table listing NFL game results for Sunday, including Buffalo vs Miami, NY Jets vs Philadelphia, and others.

OLYMPIC SPORTS

World Cup Skiing

Table listing World Cup skiing results, including slalom and giant slalom events.

BASEBALL

National League

Table listing National League baseball standings and results.

American League

Table listing American League baseball standings and results.

THIRD TEST

Table listing cricket test match results.

ITALIAN FIRST DIVISION

Table listing Italian football league results.

FRENCH FIRST DIVISION

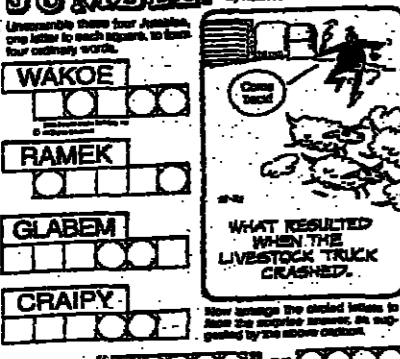
Table listing French football league results.

DENNIS THE MENACE



IF I CAN'T HAVE A PONY, HOW ABOUT IF I GET YOU ONE?

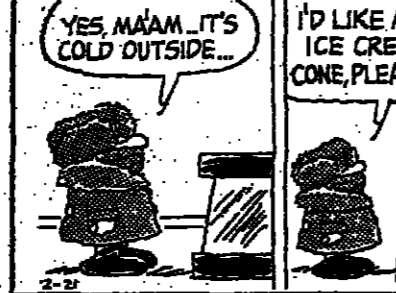
JUNBLE



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You can now receive the IHT in your home or office every morning on the day of publication. Just call us toll free at 0130 84 85 85

PEANUTS



YES, MA'AM, IT'S COLD OUTSIDE.

BLONDIE



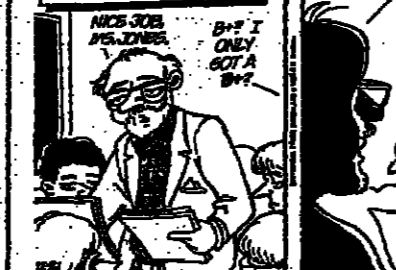
LOOK AT YOUR SLEEVE, MR. BEASLEY.

BEETLE BAILEY



WELL, I DIDN'T KNOW YOU WERE SO GOOD-HEARTED.

DOONESBURY



MR. SOLOMON, THIS IS A PROBLEM. MR. SOLOMON?

CALVIN AND HOBBES



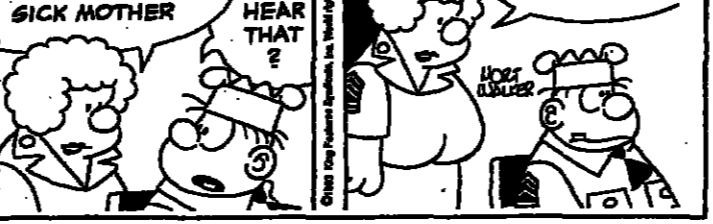
YES, MA'AM, IT'S COLD OUTSIDE.

WIZARD OF ID



THE PEASANTS DEMAND A TRUTH IN LABELING LAW.

REX MORGAN



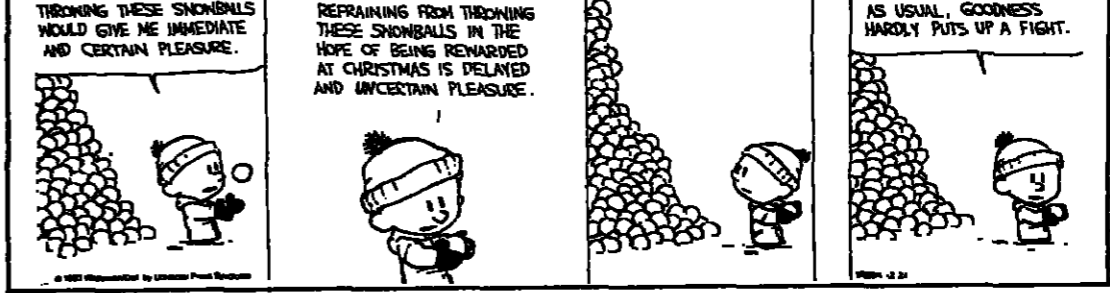
BUT I TOOK THE BUS HERE TODAY.

GARFIELD



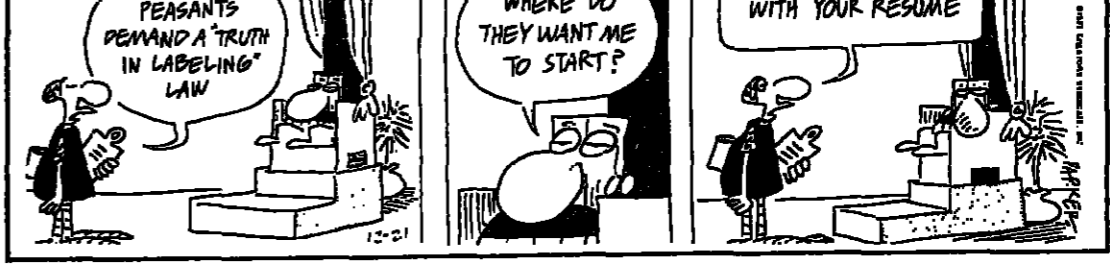
HEY, DOC, YOU LOOK LIKE A SISYPHUS IN THOSE TEDDY BEAR PAJAMAS.

CALVIN AND HOBBES



TRIPPING THESE SNOWBALLS WOULD GIVE ME IMMEDIATE AND CERTAIN PLEASURE.

WIZARD OF ID



WHERE DO THEY WANT ME TO START?

REX MORGAN



PERHAPS I CAN HELP IF YOU NICE, WE CAN DELIVER LITTLE MICROWAVE TOMORROW, YOU'D BETTER CALL A CAB.

GARFIELD



AT LEAST I DON'T LOOK LIKE A GEEK IN BUNNY PAJAMAS.

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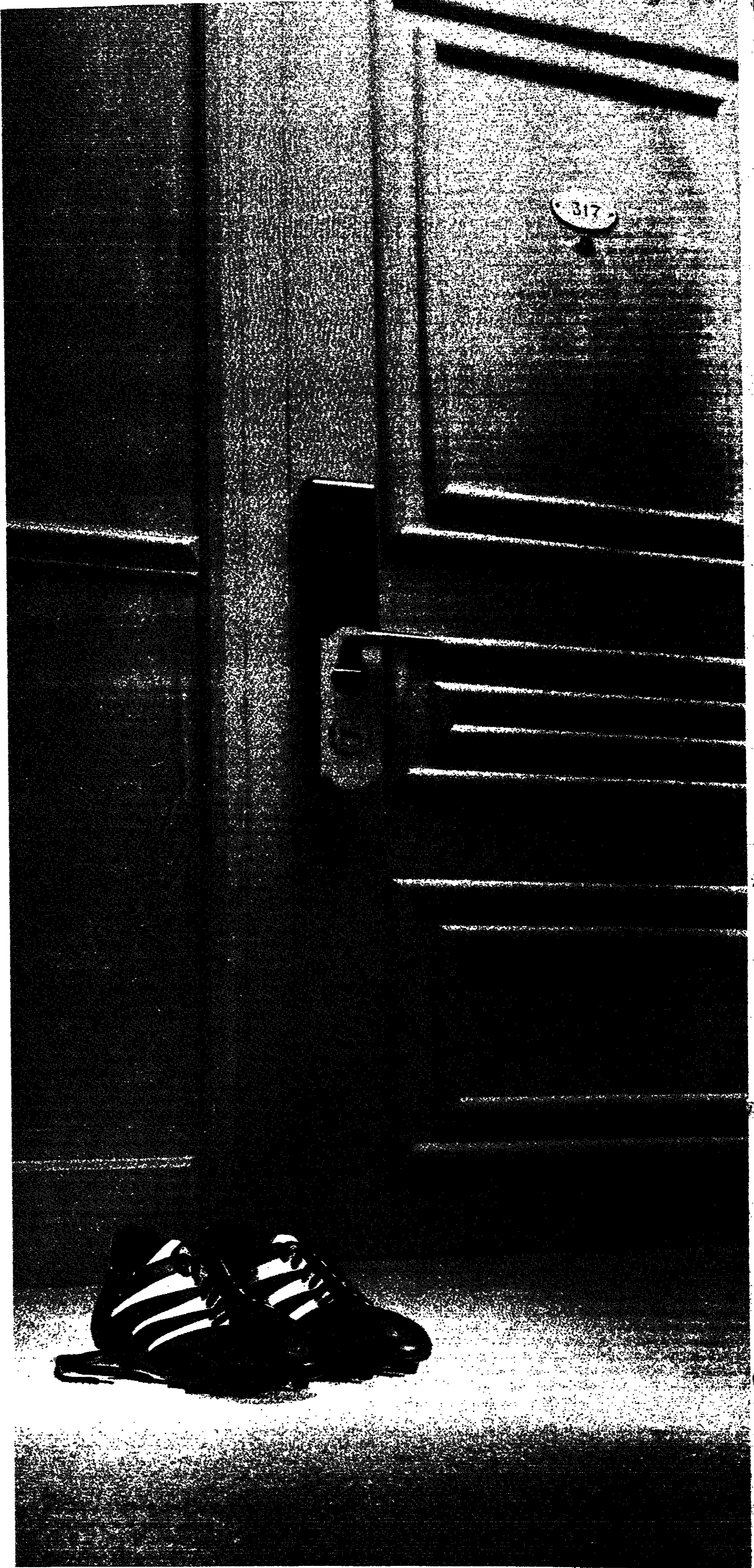


For travel arrangements contact your local authorized World Cup travel professional.



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Sample Locations: Boston: Sheraton Boston, Sheraton Commander, Sheraton Braintree Chicago: Sheraton Chicago, Sheraton Suites Elk Grove Village, Sheraton Plaza Dallas: Sheraton Park Central, Sheraton Suites Market Center Los Angeles: Sheraton Grande, Sheraton Cerritos, Miramar Sheraton, Sheraton Universal, Sheraton Los Angeles Airport New York/New Jersey: The St. Regis, Sheraton New York, Sheraton Manhattan, Sheraton Park Avenue, Sheraton Meadowlands Orlando: Walt Disney World Dolphin San Francisco: Sheraton Palace, Sheraton Fisherman's Wharf, Sheraton San Jose Washington, DC: The Carlton, Sheraton Washington, Sheraton City Centre

سكيا من الازملي

SPORTS

Who Plays Who, Where And When

Draw Landed Italy and Brazil in Toughest Cup Groups

Germany and Argentina Fared Best

- All Times GMT
FIRST ROUND
- GROUP A**
Saturday, June 18
Pasadena, California, 1530
United States vs. Switzerland, 1530
Pasadena, California, 2300
Colombia vs. Romania, 2300
Wednesday, June 22
Pasadena, California, 2300
United States vs. Colombia, 2300
Pasadena, California, 2300
Romania vs. Switzerland, 2000
Sunday, June 28
Pasadena, California, 2000
United States vs. Romania, 2000
Stanford, California, 2000
Switzerland vs. Colombia, 2000
- GROUP B**
Sunday, June 19
Pasadena, California, 2300
Cameroun vs. Sweden, 2300
Stanford, California, 2000
Brazil vs. Russia, 2000
Friday, June 24
Stanford, California, 2300
Brazil vs. Cameroon, 2300
Pasadena, California, 2300
Sweden vs. Russia, 2300
Tuesday, June 28
Stanford, California, 2000
Russia vs. Cameroon, 2000
Pasadena, California, 2000
Brazil vs. Sweden, 2000
- GROUP C**
Friday, June 18
Chicago, 1800
Germany vs. Bolivia, 1800
Tuesday, June 21
Chicago, 2100
Spain vs. South Korea, 2100
Thursday, June 23
Chicago, 2300
Germany vs. Spain, 2300
Friday, June 24
Pasadena, California, 2300
South Korea vs. Bolivia, 2300
Monday, June 27
Chicago, 2700
Bolivia vs. Spain, 2700
Tuesday, June 28
Dallas, 2800
Germany vs. South Korea, 2800
- GROUP D**
Tuesday, June 21
Pasadena, California, 2300
Argentina vs. Greece, 2300
Dallas, 2300
Nigeria vs. Bulgaria, 2300
Saturday, June 25
Pasadena, California, 2300
Argentina vs. Bulgaria, 2300
Sunday, June 26
Chicago, 2600
Bolivia vs. Greece, 2600
Thursday, June 28
Pasadena, California, 2300
Greece vs. Nigeria, 2300
Argentina vs. Bulgaria, 2300
- GROUP E**
Saturday, June 18
East Rutherford, New Jersey, 1800
Italy vs. Ireland, 1800
Sunday, June 19
East Rutherford, New Jersey, 1900
Norway vs. Mexico, 1900
Thursday, June 23
East Rutherford, New Jersey, 2300
Italy vs. Norway, 2300
Friday, June 24
Chicago, 2400
Mexico vs. Ireland, 2400
Tuesday, June 28
East Rutherford, New Jersey, 2800
Ireland vs. Norway, 2800
Italy vs. Mexico, 2800
- GROUP F**
Sunday, June 19
Orlando, Florida, 1900
Belgium vs. Morocco, 1900
Monday, June 20
Washington, D.C., 2000
Netherlands vs. Saudi Arabia, 2000
Saturday, June 25
East Rutherford, New Jersey, 2500
Saudi Arabia vs. Morocco, 2500
Orlando, Florida, 2500
Belgium vs. Netherlands, 2500
Wednesday, June 29
Washington, D.C., 2900
Morocco vs. Netherlands, 2900
Thursday, June 30
Washington, D.C., 3000
Belgium vs. Saudi Arabia, 3000
- SECOND ROUND**
Sunday, July 2
Chicago, 2000
Group C winner vs. Group A, B or F third place, 1700
Game 36
Monday, July 3
Chicago, 3600
Group A second place vs. Group C second place, 2000
Sunday, July 3
Game 37
Chicago, 3700
Group F second place vs. Group B second place, 1700
Game 40
Pasadena, California, 2000
Group A winner vs. Group C, D or E third place, 2000
Monday, July 4
Game 41
Orlando, Florida, 4100
Group F winner vs. Group E second place, 1600
Game 42
Stanford, California, 4200
Group B winner vs. Group A, C or D third place, 1900
Tuesday, July 5
Game 43
Pasadena, California, 4300
Group D winner vs. Group B, E or F third place, 1700
At East Rutherford, New Jersey
Group E winner vs. Group D second place, 2000
- QUARTERFINALS**
Saturday, July 9
Game 45
Pasadena, California, 4500
Game 43 winner vs. Game 35 winner, 1600
Game 46
Dallas, 4600
Game 41 winner vs. Game 42 winner, 1900
Sunday, July 10
Game 47
East Rutherford, New Jersey, 4700
Game 44 winner vs. Game 37 winner, 1600
Game 48
Stanford, California, 4800
Game 39 winner vs. Game 40 winner, 1900
- SEMIFINALS**
Sunday, July 11
East Rutherford, New Jersey, 4900
Game 47 winner vs. Game 45 winner, 2000
Pasadena, California, 4900
Game 48 winner vs. Game 46 winner, 2300
- THIRD PLACE**
Sunday, July 11
Pasadena, California, 4900
Semifinal losers, 1900
- CHAMPIONSHIP**
Sunday, July 17
Pasadena, California, 4900
Semifinal winners, 1900

World Cup First-Round Draw

The opening match between Germany and Bolivia will be played on June 17 in Chicago. The final will be played July 17 at the Rose Bowl in Pasadena. A total of 52 matches will be played.

Group A
PASADENA, June 18
Colombia vs. Romania
PONTIAC, June 18
USA vs. Switzerland
PASADENA, June 22
USA vs. Colombia
PONTIAC, June 22
Romania vs. Switzerland
PASADENA, June 26
USA vs. Romania
PALO ALTO, June 26
Switzerland vs. Colombia

Group B
PASADENA, June 19
Cameroun vs. Sweden
PONTIAC, June 23
Brazil vs. Russia
PALO ALTO, June 24
Brazil vs. Cameroon
PONTIAC, June 28
Sweden vs. Russia
PALO ALTO, June 28
Russia vs. Cameroon

Group C
CHICAGO, June 17
Germany vs. Bolivia
PONTIAC, June 21
Spain vs. S. Korea
CHICAGO, June 27
Bolivia vs. Spain
DALLAS, June 17
Spain vs. S. Korea
PONTIAC, June 21
S. Korea vs. Bolivia
DALLAS, June 27
Germany vs. S. Korea

Group D
FOXBORO, June 21
Argentina vs. Greece
DALLAS, June 21
Nigeria vs. Bulgaria
FOXBORO, June 25
Argentina vs. Nigeria
CHICAGO, June 26
Bulgaria vs. Greece
FOXBORO, June 30
Greece vs. Nigeria
DALLAS, June 30
Argentina vs. Bulgaria

Group E
E. RUTHERFORD, June 18
Italy vs. Ireland
WASHINGTON, June 19
Norway vs. Mexico
E. RUTHERFORD, June 23
Italy vs. Norway
ORLANDO, June 24
Mexico vs. Ireland
E. RUTHERFORD, June 28
Ireland vs. Norway
WASHINGTON, June 28
Italy vs. Mexico

Group F
ORLANDO, June 19
Belgium vs. Morocco
E. RUTHERFORD, June 25
Saudi Arabia vs. Morocco
ORLANDO, June 29
Morocco vs. Netherlands
WASHINGTON, June 20
Netherlands vs. S. Arabia
ORLANDO, June 25
Belgium vs. Netherlands
WASHINGTON, June 29
Belgium vs. Saudi Arabia

Soccer Is Peddling the Wrong Product in America

By Ian Thomsen
International Herald Tribune

LAS VEGAS — He said, "It is up to FIFA to make the choice of people who belong in the final draw. There are no obligations in this matter. It is something that belongs to FIFA."

João Havelange clamped his strong jaw and blinked theatrically, a long slow blink, no different than a bodybuilder flexing his muscles. FIFA is the international soccer federation and he is its president. He was speaking of his fellow Brazilian, Pelé, the greatest player his sport has ever known.

Havelange said, "It is not the presence of one person who will decide the success of the World Cup."

And he said, "The persons who participate are unimportant to FIFA. The presence or absence of one person changes it in absolutely no way."

Pelé had accused the president of the Brazilian soccer federation of awarding a television contract to FIFA's business competitor in return for a \$1 million kickback. The specifics of this case are almost irrelevant. The president of the Brazilian federation happens to be the son-in-law of Havelange, and this also is irrelevant. It is the father-in-law's decision to ban Pelé from the World Cup Final Draw ceremony Sunday that warrants scrutiny, for it leads one to decide once again that soccer will not catch on in America.

The people who run soccer do not know how to create stars in this country. As politicians, they wonder why Americans are lagging behind the rest of the world in their devotion to the game. Is it because

use of the hands is not allowed? The scoring is too low? The U.S. sports calendar is stuffed full already? FIFA scratches its head. In the meantime its president declares unimportant the player who did more to prepare America for the World Cup than all of the politicians who now take credit for his work.

Americans ignore soccer because they can't tell you who plays it. It has nothing to do with the feet or the scoring or the competition. The only player they know is Pelé, and he retired two decades ago. He has the eerie tenacity of Elvis, gone but still in charge somehow, and it's because the game does not know how to create stars to replace him.

This week the soccer politicians might have introduced the stars of their game to the American public. The domestic media

was here from every major market, ready to pass along word to prospective fans. Instead of gaining an understanding for the game and the talents of the people who play it, they ended up writing about the equivalent of a political convention. Round, middle-aged, blinking men sat on stages and talked about how they were going to sell the game to America. As if they are the ones who must ultimately sell the game to America.

People are paying an average of \$58 for 3.6 million World Cup tickets in order to watch players. They could not care less about politicians and administrators. Yet the more time one spends around soccer, the more obvious it becomes that these politicians believe they are the stars. Of course they will argue that they are not, but their actions state otherwise. Havelange said that Pelé was, in effect, "unimportant." By deciding to take the stage himself while denying a role to Pelé, did Havelange not make it clear that he considers himself more important than the greatest player?

Havelange seems to believe that he can roll out his plush red carpet across 31 days and nine American metropolises and by the time it's all done the magnitude of the World Cup will have Americans pleading for more. To this date his federation has done nothing to promote players for the American audience. He and his lieutenants all preach to America the glory of the World Cup but they never do explain it. They don't explain it because they actually don't understand it. They don't understand it because they never played in it.

But it is obvious that these politicians love the spotlight. One gets the feeling that they are not so willing to share it.

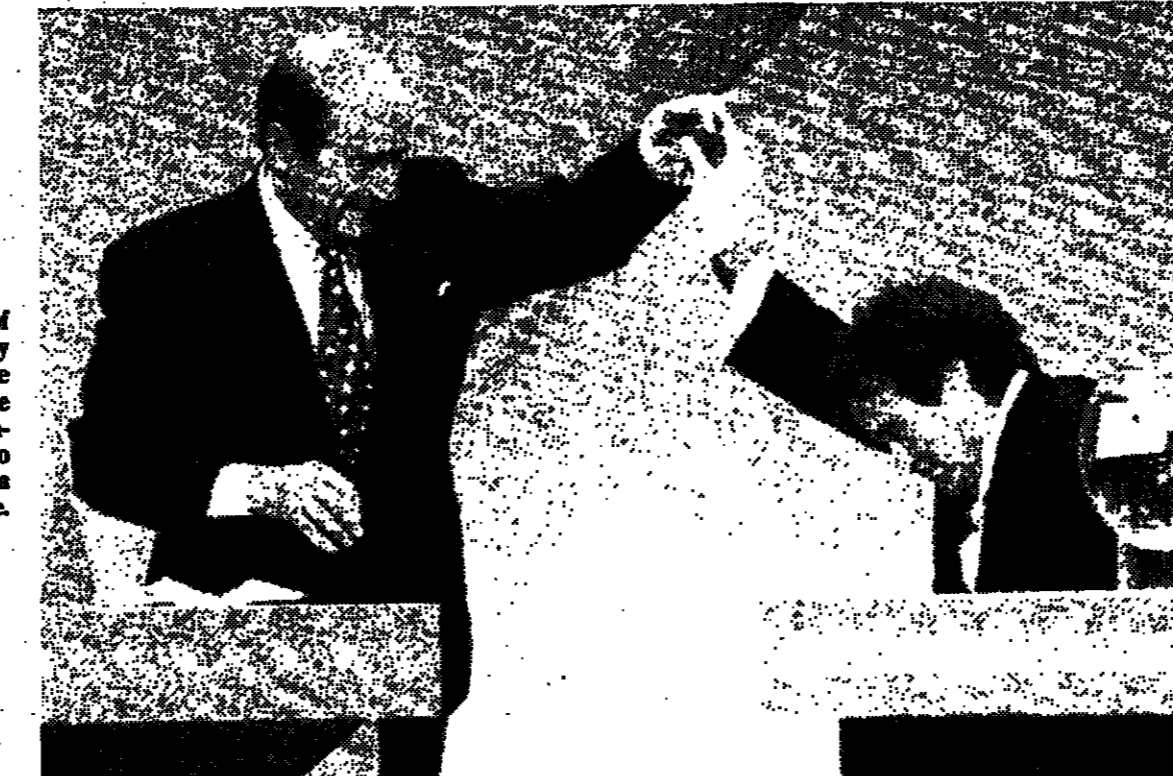
It is overwhelming, the depths of ignorance plumbed by those trying to sell soccer for the umpteenth time to a culture that creates entertainment for the rest of the world. Six months to go, and the only player America knows is somebody who hasn't played in 15 years and isn't even important enough to share the stage with Beau Bridges, Tony Meola and Carol Alt.

When layer after layer of corporate sponsors agreed to invest millions in this start-up venture, did they realize that their products and services were going to be tied into the personality of Sepp Blatter? (He is the secretary general of FIFA, he was the host of the Final Draw, and he has a fine personality, by the way.)

And now they are talking about starting a professional league in the United States in 1995. This will be put on by the same people who brought you Sepp Blatter.

They can tell themselves that the World Cup will be a huge success. They will be right, because of the 3.6 million tickets, and the \$58 average price per ticket. Of course, when the audience doesn't have a relationship with the performers, then the performance takes on the aspects of a Broadway play on tour. "Cats" was a big hit once, selling out everywhere it went. Nobody knows why. And when it disappeared nobody missed it, either.

Sepp Blatter, the secretary general of FIFA, being passed a selection ball by comedian Robin Williams during the draw in Las Vegas. In many ways, the way soccer's politicians sought not to introduce the stars of their game to the American public also seemed like a joke.



Look for the Talented Latins to Conquer the North

LAS VEGAS — Soccer is today between the devil and a bright new dawn. Its soul cries out for performers to rescue the sport from the self-interest of its administrators.

It is not new, or unexpected, for the powers that be to throw players out into the mid-day sun in such humid places as Orlando and Dallas. The gray men in gray suits will sit and svelte, poor chops, so long as they rake in millions from television and sponsorships dependent on live broadcasts to continents nine hours to the east and nine to the west.

The players, mercenaries themselves, must take the money and run, or walk, or limp, through up to seven hot matches between June 17 and July 17. They try to condition their bodies and minds to it. They expect no favors from authority. They know deep in their professional bones that FIFA's efforts to quicken play are counter-productive when the lunge-arms pushing the limits of exhaustion.

But the show goes on, the "new" American audience is there to be won. Market forces prevail, so get out and perform and don't dare offer us feeble prima donna excuses.

The word here is significant. I find it beyond comprehension that João Havelange has risen again, that his autocratic dogma has been able to cut Pelé, the greatest player the game has known, out of the World Cup Draw semifinalists.

All right, Havelange is still the elected president of FIFA. But when he vindictively forbade the name Pelé, much less the man on the stage, where was the courage, the propriety, the sense of duty from those who could have stopped him?

No one stood up to Havelange. Not Sepp Blatter, the general secretary and master of the balls of FIFA. Not Alan Rothberg, the California lawyer running

the show for the United States. Not Lennart Johansson, the president of UEFA. And certainly not Havelange's Latin buddy, the silent Mexican Guillermo Cuatrecasas, who sits as chairman of the 1994 World Cup organizing committee.

"I'll be honest. I thought Havelange was a warring old man. But Sunday, simply because Pelé has accused Havelange's son-in-law, Ricardo Teixeira, of corrupting Brazilian soccer affairs, the septuagenarian showed us he's still boss. It was a devastating, disturbing act. The millions covered before Havelange as if he was Mao Zedong reincarnate.

But enough of him. Which players might pretend that soccer is still a game? Famously enough, I anticipate that the Latins with their wiles, their ability to curss the ball and make it do the work, will conquer America's conditions best.

Pelé himself suggests that Colombia has the most talented team. Agreed. Carlos Valderrama, the peroxide Gullit, can turn a match with an inspired pass. Adolfo (El Tren) Valencia, Ivan Valencia and Freddy Rincon are all able to strike with the venom of rattlesnakes.

And they are not the best of Colombia. That, in stinging, leaping athletic stride and eagle-eyed finishing, is Faustino Hernandez Aspírrita, a player whose speed sometimes transcends even the Italian league, where he plays for Parma.

Yet the Colombians do not convince me that they will be the tournament's winners. On their day, they can beat anybody. But a World Cup requires delicate pacing, it needs team discipline and personal evenness of purpose and temper.

In that collective sense, I believe the Brazilians and Argentines know the game better. Brazil, if it can harness either Romario or Bebeto or both, is to my eye the likely winner. Argentina's chance will be better served if its manager, Alfio Basile, swiftly decides to cast aside the aging, ailing Maradona.

The bookmakers have been picking Germany, but

using Lothar Matthäus as a sweeper or libero is evidence enough that Germany cannot find youth to replace the proven winners of 1990. Matthäus is like Havelange: he is long in the tooth, divorced from day-to-day effectiveness, but somehow retaining a power over decision makers that is not good for the game.

The wheel ought to have turned on them by now, but it is the feebleness of others that sustains their influence.

It is now 20 years since Havelange ousted Sir Stanley Rous, a former English schoolmaster, as overlord at FIFA House. The Brazilian wheeler-dealer knew more about generating financial power, about furthering the television-sport-advertising triangle, and winning votes. He courted the African votes, promised and delivered their emergence as a world power in the game. It had, however, been Sir Stanley who predicted that an African team would win a World Cup by the end of the millennium.

If true, it is now or never. Cameroon, the most hypotically appealing team of 1990, is past that peak (although, with my judgment on Havelange's staying power you might discard such judgment).

Nevertheless, Nigeria looks to be the present power from Africa, especially if the strikers Daniel Amokachi and Rashidi Yekini rise to the task.

CONTRARILY, one thing that has hindered the African breakthrough has been European respect for it. European coaches on African soil tend to stunt

the growth, depress the naturalness of ball skills learned barefoot. Moreover, the rich European clubs, notably the Belgians and Germans, pluck African talents in embryo and blend them into their teams, their methods, their television dominated schedules.

So the freshness goes, the element of surprise is diminished. The African becomes like the European, beholden to tactics and preoccupied with club demands and constant, warring travel. Come are the days when nations can prepare their players in long concentrations for World Cups. Almost gone, anyway.

Leo Beenhakker, the Netherlands' "White Tulip," has just taken over the Saudi Arabian team and takes on his fellow Dutchmen in Round 1. His preparation is not restricted by finance or time. Discussing with his sheik the ideal way to build for this World Cup, he outlined a plan to train the squad over three months, first in the south of France, then in South America.

Agreed, said the sheik. But when Beenhakker suggested a "family week" for the players back in Saudi Arabia, the sheik had a better idea. He will hire a jumbo jet and fly the families to the players whenever the coach permits it.

The Saudis struck oil in preparing for the peak of a lifetime. It might take them some of the way, but not all the way, to the Rose Bowl on July 17. For that, surely, will still be determined by the skills born to players. A pity that this criterion can not be protected from the presidency down.

The Colombians have become a darkhorse favorite after that 5-0 shocker over Argentina in the qualifying round. They play a spectacular South American star, administrator of Brazil's and don't seem to have missed their flamboyant goal-keeper, René Higuita, who has been in a Bogota prison since June for allegedly violating Colombia's strict new anti-kidnapping law.

Romania, because it is an Eastern European team, stuck as it was for years behind the Iron Curtain, does not immediately come to mind in a discussion of soccer powerhouses. But it won its qualifying group, even with a coaching change midway, and plays a rugged physical game, with superb forwards and an attacking midfield that will give problems to Colombia, the United States and Switzerland.

Many of Romania's players have polished their games by playing abroad. Its top star, George Hagi, has been in the Netherlands, the Maradons of the Carpathians. The Americans, though, can gain encouragement from a 1-1 tie with Romania in a "friendly" match last February in Santa Barbara, California.

"There's not an easy team out there," said American sweeper Marcel Balboa. "You never want to get a group like that, but you have to deal with them. Switzerland and Romania come right at you, a hundred miles an hour. Colombia has that Latin style, fancy dribbling. We're going to have to adapt to different styles in 10 or 12 days."

(NYT, AP, Reuters, AFP)

Rob Hughes

Rob Hughes is on the staff of The Times.

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ART BUCHWALD

On the Oyster Beat

WASHINGTON — Whenever I want to know what the economy is doing, I ask Joe Rees who sells almost-real Rolex...



Buchwald

Debris Found in Sea Linked to Saint-Exupéry

PARIS — Researchers said Monday that traces of debris found in the Mediterranean may be from the World War II plane that crashed with French author Antoine de Saint-Exupéry in the cockpit...

A Dubliner Gets His Encores

By John Rockwell New York Times Service

DUBLIN — For a man on the verge of being about as famous as serious columnists can be, Roddy Doyle, 35, is acting pretty gun-shy...



Author Roddy Doyle: 'I'm more concerned whether it's a good read.'

regards it as a substitute for his 14 years of teaching grade-school English and geography in a Dublin public school...

Doyle was born in 1958. But the author, who grew up in a north Dublin suburb not unlike his fictional Barrytown...

"The place is mine; the time is mine," he said. "There are memories of my own, running through a field and seeing pheasants fly up, balls of dust under the kitchen table...

Nonetheless, one wonders how autobiographical one passage in "Paddy Clarke is, when Doyle has his young protagonist recall: 'I loved making up stuff, I loved the way the next bit came into my head, it made sense and expanded and I could keep going till I came to the end; it was like being in a race. I always won.'"

After laboring through the early 1980s on a gigantic, never published political satire called "Your Granny's a Hunger Striker"...

Since then, he has always been popular with the Irish reading public, and "Paddy Clarke" was mostly admired by Irish critics, a turnaround Doyle attributes to steadily friendly British reviews and, now, the Booker accolades.

Still, whether he is "making up stuff," whether he is writing proper literature or just setting down real life like some docu-journalist, has been a constant source of debate, and one that still rages. Irish critics, accustomed to the higher-flow raptures of so many great Irish writers, had their doubts.

"My writing has been labeled photography with a word processor," Doyle said with evident bitterness. "It's not literature; anybody can do it. The other complaint, which I think was fairer, was that it was insulting to the working class. Because my background is not working class, I was exploiting people."

His determined effort to expand his craft, to take on intimate details of family life and even the perspective of a 10-year-old, belies the accusation of journalism. Certainly no tape recorder could capture real life as poignantly as Doyle's characters.

"It's fiction," he said of "Paddy Clarke." "It's pure spoof. I'm not too concerned, really, if it's actually accurate. I'm more concerned whether it's a good read, that people are convinced by it. Whether they're convinced because it's true or because they're convinced it's true, that's somebody else's problem."

PEOPLE

Not, Says Prince Edward

British press reports that Prince Edward and Sophie Rhys-Jones are planning to marry early next year appear to be premature...

For that special Republican who has everything, the Richard Nixon Presidential Library and Birthplace in Yorba Linda, California has issued a catalogue of gifts...

A 22-year-old design student from Tokyo based 80 rivals from around the world to win the 11th annual International Contest for Young Fashion Creators...

The novelist Colleen McCullough and her husband were ordered to pay \$164,000 to a gardener who hurt his back while mowing...

Mickey Rooney, 73, will make his debut as a novelist next spring in an unusual venture with the publisher Carol Books...

Judy Garland's half-sized Oscar won for "The Wizard of Oz" of 1939 was withdrawn from auction, four days after Vivien Leigh Best Actress award was sold for \$563,000...

Singer Bill Anderson picked one line to sum up his 30 years in the country music business: "I Hope You're Living as High on the Hog as the Pig You Turned Out to Be."

Steven Spielberg's three-hour-plus drama about the Holocaust, "Schindler's List," failed to make the Top 10 list on its first weekend, but grossed an estimated \$860,000...

Continued from page 11

INTERNATIONAL CLASSIFIED Appears on Page 11

WEATHER

Table with weather forecasts for Europe, including High, Low, Wind, and Cloud cover for various cities.

Forecast for Wednesday through Friday, as provided by Accu-Weather.



Table with weather forecasts for North America, Latin America, and Oceania, including High, Low, Wind, and Cloud cover.

Table with weather forecasts for Asia and Africa, including High, Low, Wind, and Cloud cover.

CROSSWORD

Crossword puzzle grid with clues for Across and Down words. Includes a solution for the puzzle of Dec. 20.

Large advertisement for AT&T international calling services. Features the headline 'Travel in a world without borders, time zones or language barriers.' and includes a table of international access numbers for various countries.



AT&T